THE EXAMINER.

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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. Pope.

No. 743.

FINANCE.

This week has been distinguished by the production of that very ominous piece of annual disclosure, which in the fashionable language of finance is termed "the Budget." We recollect the period when this was the most critical season of the political year; but times are so altered, it scarcely at present produces a sensation. No loan, and consequently no provision for it; no breathless apprehension as to where taxation will fall; or acute speculation upon the ways and means of making 5 per cent. additional duty upon an existing stock, turn out 20 per cent. to the consumer. All this is gone by, and a lively adventurer of the Pitt era will find nothing to carry him back to the golden days of his remembrance, but the jargon about the Sinking Fund, which still occupies the formal mouths of Chancellors of the Exchequer; but oh how changed!—"the big manly voice" turned towards a "childish treble, pipes and whistles in its sound;" or, in other words, is only prevented by a species of conventional deception, from being received as the utterance of second childhood. In times like these, the once all-important budget dwindles into a subject of very trite animadversion; so trite indeed, that we should scarcely deem it necessary to notice it at all, were it not a part of our duty to let no opportunity escape, which affords the means of exhibiting the fallacy of the arguments adopted to maintain existing taxation; and which rests its expediency upon the maintenance of a Sinking Fund.

To those who attend closely to the serpentine progress of financial statesmanship, we scarcely need observe, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer for this current year, 1822, has a nice ground to occupy. In the first place, he must not make the revenue too prosperous, except as to the future, for in that case, he necessarily stimulates the interests, which are most oppressed, to clamour for a correspondent repeal of taxation. On the other hand, were he to rest the propriety of maintaining existing burthens upon their absolute necessity, he would force still more attention upon waste, profusion, and sinecure, and stimulate the indignant attempts to get rid of them. In this dilemma, the wily Man of Ways and Means wriggles through a course of plausible assertion and equivocal expediency. Having been at last beaten into the acknowledgment, that there is no way of getting out of debt, or, in other words, no Sinking Fund except a surplus, it is his business to make a surplus either by fact or assumption; and where facts fall short, to assume in proportion to the deficiency. Thus at the present moment, an excess of taxation of exactly five millions is held to be the precise amount which is essential to the salvation of public credit, and this sum must be made out at all events; not that any good can possibly be derived from the falsehood simply considered, but only as connected with the maintenance of a plausible motive for keeping taxation at a given amount. Were it clearly seen, after so much has been said about it, that more than half of the presumed excess is a fiction, the emptiness of the talk about public credit would be at once exposed, and one or other of two decided conclusions would immediately follow—either the folly of the bubble termed the Sinking Fund would become still more apparent; or, supposing that piece of deceptive machinery to be still held desirable, as increased taxation cannot be had recourse to, increased reduction would be the only and dreaded alternative. Such is the artificial vibration of the existing system, an ounce more on this side or on that will turn the affair; and hence a pertinacity in mystification, which considering that the object is only to conceal from the nation that its surplus is two instead of five millions, or that there is no surplus at all, would be otherwise unaccountable. To be sure, *post factum* the truth always becomes apparent enough, but John is a gullible animal, and listens to the five millions story for the *ensuing* year, with as much simplicity as if the last had not deceived him—that is to say, his virtual Representatives do so for him, and he acquiesces. Out of doors, the insufferable folly of so much repeated delusion, is becoming tolerably understood; and if things go on in the same way for another year or two, the process will become as gross a piece of deception as the annual liquefaction of the blood of St. Januarius; and the official performers of the one ceremony will receive from manly reason and common-sense, about the same degree of respect as the priestly charlatans of the other.

So much—and we fear too much—by way of preface to a little brief exposure of the fallacies which are to establish the five millions of the passing year. In every other point of view, this budget being a mere recapitulation of data, the particulars of which were previously well known, requires little observation; nor to attentive readers of the debates, is even this necessary, provided they understand the mystic jargon in which the arcana are so judiciously conveyed; but as that is not the case with a great number, the delivery of a few facts in plain language can do no sort of harm.

In the first place, we find that notwithstanding the decrease of taxation, by the repeal of the Salt and Malt Taxes, the revenue is taken for next year at the same amount as the last or the present. We are told, and believe indeed, that it *is* increasing; but whether the assumption to the given extent be not somewhat too bold and arbitrary, considering the taxation reduced, is very doubtful. In every view of the case, however, it is assumption *only;* and the indispensible five millions must finally depend upon facts. But let us allow it, and what an argument will it afford of the propriety of further reduction, and of the possibility of effecting it, without even disturbing the phantom termed Public Credit, with which Ministers guard the avenue to additional indulgence? But if people are so well able to consume, it will be said,—why ease them in other respects? We will say why—because the power of consumption on the part of the majority is partly acquired at the expense of a very numerous minority, which will produce a reaction when it can no longer be supported; and still more, because an immense load of oppressive and injudicious taxation

may be dispensed with. To enumerate a most flagitious one—look at the amount of stamps upon Chancery and Common Law proceedings;—a burthen which, in respect to small property, almost makes a mockery of justice; and in reference to debtor and creditor, adds so oppressively to the misery and distress of the one, and to the ultimate loss of the other. But more of this anon, our purpose, at present, is only to make use of that presumption for a solid purpose, which is advanced for a shadowy one. If it turns out to be only a presumption, what becomes of the five millions; and if something more, our reasoning stands firm and good.

In the foregoing paragraph, we have simply entered a caveat against taking a mere supposition too explicitly for a matter of fact; our next objection is to a piece of gross and unblushing delusion. We allude to the bringing forward the sum of 2,400,000*l.* borrowed upon the Pension Annuity scheme, so justly ridiculed by Lord KING, *from* the Sinking Fund, in order to increase the nominal amount of the said Sinking Fund; or, to speak still more plainly, to make up the asserted amount of surplus. The fact is almost incredible; yet so it is, that the temporary reduction of our annual expenditure, by an appropriation from the Sinking Fund, is absolutely brought forward to prove its increase. We do not think that there is another country in the world where such delusion could be seriously put forward by a Minister of State. Whatever we save in *present* burthen by this delectable scheme, may be fairly insisted upon; but to dwell upon its adding to a surplus for prospective *redemption*, is of all things the most impertinent, seeing that it absolutely detracts from what otherwise would have been the surplus, by being brought forward as part of the ways and means of the present year. If, after deducting so much from the excess, there still remains five millions, let it be proved by a fair Dr. and Cr. account; but to speak of the appropriation itself as a saving, can only be intended to impose upon the multitude, who cannot or will not follow these statements, by leading them into some confused notion, that the Pension Annuity scheme is something more than mere arrangement, and productive of positive saving. The *hocus-pocus* is indeed unspeakable. Thus, the Chancellor of the Exchequer says, "I shall only borrow *ten* millions from the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt this year, instead of between 12 and 13 millions as heretofore. What is the real state of the case? Why, that he borrows the said ten millions in the usual form, and 2,400,000*l.* in a new one, and this diverts about the same amount as before. We need not add, that a plain, honest statement would at once render this trickery palpable to the meanest capacity; but not only is such a statement withheld, but the materials which would enable people to form it for themselves, are given in such a way as to render the task next door to impossible. How different the conduct of the Executive of the United States, and even of France; in the former, the annual statement may, at a glance, be understood by any one who is adequate to the two first rules of arithmetic; and with the latter, the case is very nearly the same. Compare their accounts with the confused, intricate, and partial returns produced by our own Chancellor of the Exchequer, which never exhibit a general result, but seem constructed with a view to render a clear detection of the fallacies he may employ in dilating upon them, next to impossible. This purpose is answered most admirably; for as an evening paper has well observed, what a strange absurdity upon the face of pretended documents, to hear gentlemen well versed in figures, formally debating whether the balance be five millions or two millions, with the statements themselves in their hands. What sort of accounts must they be, which will allow of a difference of opinion upon the arithmetical result of submitted items. We see what they are, and whilst they are what they are, the public may take it for granted that they will not stand the test of honest examination. Mr. RICARDO, a good authority for figures, asserts, that reduced to genuine totals, the Revenue exceeds the expenditure by only 1,600,000*l.* or even less; and proceeding as far as we could go in a similar reduction to a single result, we came to very nearly the same conclusion. So happily, however, is the matter managed, we cannot find a single Journalist hardy enough to pretend to a thorough comprehension of Mr. VANSITTART'S disclosures. The conclusion from this is unavoidable, but happily it is of the least possible consequence, for under the existing system, the sole operation of what is called the Sinking Fund is to increase the money-value of that which it is professedly appropriated to redeem, and consequently to afford work for itself. To the general public, therefore, this point is of consideration, only as supplying argument for a decrease of taxation or a reduction of expenditure. If the surplus be only 1,600,000*l.* a reduction of expenditure is necessary, even upon the showing of Ministers; if it be the asserted five or three millions, it is for the people to be eased in proportion, instead of sacrificing such surplus to the exclusive interest of the Jobber and Fundholder, by artificially increasing the value of his property. At all events, this operation should be preceded by the repeal of every impost which assails either principle or comfort. This accomplished, it may then be time to appropriate a surplus to liquidation; but even then it should be carried to market in the simplest possible way, and be wholly divested of the expensive and deceptive disguise and machinery, the only purpose of which is to throw dust into the eyes of the people.

But the most ludicrous part of the representation of Mr. VANSITTART consists in the mystification of a transaction with the East India Company. The detail is so altogether characteristic of the genius of the Treasury on the one side, and of corporative modesty on the other, it must be briefly described. The Company then, be it understood, has made a claim upon the public of five millions, for the support of BONAPARTE in St. Helena, which is docked down to 1,300,000*l.*—so curtailable are the bills of great corporations. On the other side, the Company is indebted to the country for a loan of 1,800,000*l.* and a bargain is struck to balance the two accounts by a payment of 530,000*l.* by the latter. Thus a book-debt is annihilated of 1,800,000*l.* for 530,000*l.* and the public are called upon to regard the latter payment as an addition of receipt towards a surplus. An addition it certainly is, in one sense, but purchased by retiring a credit, which of course always appeared in former accounts, and which being omitted in the present, must affect the result proportionably. But then it may be said, if so much was due *to* the Company, on the other hand, it is but just after all. True, but did the probable demand of the Company ever come into former accounts? We believe not, and therefore *they* were false in proportion to the omission; and thus it is, year after year, something is discovered which proves the fine anticipation of the year preceding, to be air—"thin air;" and so it will be as to the financial one about to commence. By the way, too, are the British people to support the expense of the

disgraceful treatment of Napoleon solely? The cost through one channel only, is 1,300,000*l.* We dare say the whole expense has been five or six millions, and it would appear that we are not to be aided by the Magnanimous Allies, for whose benefit he was held in custody much more than for our own, with a single million. Have we volunteered both cost and ignominy? What a curious and extraordinary fact to drop out, as it were, of a paper of intricate accounts, when no one was thinking at all of the matter. But to return—acquired as this 530,000*l.* is, by the sacrifice of a sum due, of more than three times the amount, in compliment to an expense, which should at least be a joint one, it makes the oddest item of a *surplus* we ever heard tell of. Even if accepted as such, it will do nothing for next year, which, on the presumption of equal receipt, will fall so much short of the present; but the receipt, it seems, is to increase, maugre the reduction of taxation in a far greater degree. If so, we repeat—what an argument for further reduction; but to say the truth, either sooner or later there must either be a reaction on agricultural prices, or the country gentlemen and farmers are the greatest impostors and misrepresenters on record. There is no medium; prices must rise, or this be the case; and if prices do rise by partial waste of capital, and, by relaxed cultivation, away goes all the increase of consumption, which is the sole cause of the increase of revenue, that forms a precarious, but, it must be confessed, not any unnatural cause of temporary exultation.

So much for a few obvious pieces of sophistication in the boasted budget. Attending to the new general anticipation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it would be easy to prove, that many things *may* happen, and that some *will* happen, which will materially affect his character for financial prophecy, although to say the truth, it cannot be much lower than it is. We are so far from thinking the Turkish and Russian quarrel settled, we are of opinion that it is almost as open as ever; and then as to Ireland, it is clear that a great national expense not only will, but *ought* to be incurred, in aid of a population suffering by misconduct not its own. The money will be sunk too; the thing is irremediable; and thus will it eternally be with respect to the shadow termed a Sinking Fund, which will always be great in prospect, and visionary in fact. Fortunately, as "all sides of the House agree" (miraculous agreement!) "that there is no Sinking Fund except a *real* surplus," Mr. VANSITTART promises some arrangement that will annihilate the nominal millions, which it has been the fashion to call so; to begin again the little phœnix of five millions, we suppose, (possibly equally nominal) which has sprung from its ashes. There is a moral in this fact, and the people should attend to it, and persevere. It was from *out of doors* that this monstrous delusion received its mortal wound, and similar creditable pertinacity will sooner or later put down Sinking Funds altogether; and, rejecting the whole mass of its imposture, attend only to the best practical manner of redeeming debt, as surplus becomes available.

On the day following the foggy disclosures of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. HOBHOUSE, in moving for a repeal of the House and Window Duties, indicated one of the most certain ways of easing the community—that of a reduction of general and direct taxation, which it has been shewn upon the clearest evidence, is heavier in proportion as it descends. This, however, operating nothing in favour of powerful close interests, could not materially interest any of them. The country gentlemen were therefore all silent; it would neither advance their rents, nor relieve them *exclusively*; which seems (granting several honourable exceptions) to be nearly the *exclusive* object of their patriotism and solicitude.—Mr. VANSITTART condescended to say, that these taxes *were* heavy, but then they were so readily paid—it might be an object of *future* attention, but nothing at present could be spared, without wounding public credit,—an assertion which must be true, because maintained, like that of the lady, who averred that she was only 40, for half a dozen years together, in the teeth of common sense. One fact produced in reply by Mr. MABERLY, is quite conclusive,—that even allowing for the dead charge (half-pay and pensions) the national expenditure is twelve millions more per annum now than in 1792. Mr. HUME, as usual, pointed out sources of retrenchment, which, abating a good deal for the praiseworthy ardency of his economical spirit, were in a great degree undeniable. As to affecting public credit, let no human being be deluded by that senseless cry, which is as hollow as its twin brother, the "influence of the Crown." Would to heaven that loans, except from the beginning of the year to the end of it, were utterly impossible; in fine, that the supplies henceforward could be raised within the year. This must be the case, sooner or later, even if loan-mongery goes on; only in that event, it will be done because we cannot help it, instead of upon principle. What a monstrous tissue of fraud, profligacy, fluctuation, and human suffering, has been created by the opposite system, especially as connected with the plan of borrowing 50*l.* or 60*l.* under an engagement not to be able to demand redemption under 100*l.* a scope which makes Sinking Fund and Delusion convertible terms. The sensible government of the United States, although it borrows and funds, steers clear of *this* rock; but America is the country of *real*, not *virtual* representation. Q.

LETTERS

TO THE READERS OF THE EXAMINER.

No. 6.—ON MR. SHELLEY'S NEW POEM, ENTITLED ADONAIS.

SINCE I left London, Mr. Shelley's *Adonais, or Elegy on the Death of Mr. Keats*, has, I find, made its appearance. I have not seen the London edition; but I have an Italian one printed at Pisa, with which I must content myself at present. The other was to have had notes. It is not a poem calculated to be popular, any more than the *Prometheus Unbound*; it is of too abstract and subtle a nature for that purpose; but it will delight the few, to whom Mr. Shelley is accustomed to address himself. Spenser would be pleased with it if he were living. A mere town reader and a Quarterly Reviewer will find it *caviare*. *Adonais*, in short, is such an elegy as poet might be expected to write upon poet. The author has had before him his recollections of Lycidas, of Moschus and Bion, and of the doctrines of Plato; and in the stanza of the most poetical of poets, Spenser, has brought his own genius, in all its etherial beauty, to lead a pomp of Loves, Graces, and Intelligences, in honour of the departed.

Nor is the Elegy to be considered less sincere, because it is full of poetical abstractions. Dr. Johnson would have us believe, that *Lycidas* is not "the effusion of real passion."—"Passion," says he, in his usual conclusive tone, (as if the force of critic could no further go) "plucks no berries from the myrtle and ivy; nor calls upon Arethuse and Mincius, nor tells of rough Satyrs and Fauns with cloven heel. Where there is leisure for fiction, there is little grief." This is only a more genteel common-place, brought in to put down a vulgar one. Dr. Johnson, like most critics, had no imagination; and because he found nothing natural to his own impulses in the associations of poetry, and saw them so often abused by the practice of versifiers inferior to himself, he was willing to

conclude, that on natural occasions they were always improper. But a poet's world is as real to him as the more palpable one to people in general. He spends his time in it as truly as Dr. Johnson did his in Fleet-street or at the club. Milton felt that the happiest hours he had passed with his friend had been passed in the regions of poetry. He had been accustomed to be transported with him "beyond the visible diurnal sphere" of his fire-side and supper-table, things which he could record nevertheless with a due relish. (See the *Epitaphium Damonis*.) The next step was to fancy himself again among them, missing the dear companion of his walks; and then it is that the rivers murmur complainingly, and the flowers hang their heads,—which to a truly poetical habit of mind, though to no other, they may literally be said to do, because such is the aspect which they present to an afflicted imagination. "I see nothing in the world but melancholy," is a common phrase with persons who are suffering under a great loss. With ordinary minds in this condition the phrase implies a vague feeling, but still an actual one. The poet, as in other instances, gives it a life and particularity. The practice has doubtless been abused; so much so, that even some imaginative minds may find it difficult at first to fall in with it, however beautifully managed. But the very abuse shews that it is founded in a principle in nature. And a great deal depends upon the character of the poet. What is mere frigidity and affectation in common magazine rhymers, or men of wit and fashion about town, becomes another thing in minds accustomed to live in the sphere I spoke of. It was as unreasonable in Dr. Johnson to sneer at Milton's grief in *Lycidas*, as it was reasonable in him to laugh at Prior and Congreve for comparing Chloe to Venus and Diana, and *pastoralizing* about Queen Mary. Neither the turn of their genius, nor their habits of life, included this sort of ground. We feel that Prior should have stuck to his tuckers and boddices, and Congreve appeared in his proper Court-mourning.

Milton perhaps overdid the matter a little when he personified the poetical enjoyments of his friend and himself under the character of actual shepherds. Mr. Shelley is the more natural in this respect, inasmuch as he is entirely abstract and imaginative, and recalls his lamented acquaintance to mind in no other shape than one strictly poetical. I say acquaintance, because such Mr. Keats was; and it happens, singularly enough, that the few hours which he and Mr. Shelley passed together were almost entirely of a poetical character. I recollect one evening in particular, which they spent with the writer of these letters in composing verses on a given subject. But it is not as a mere acquaintance, however poetical, that Mr. Shelley records him. It is as the intimate acquaintance of all lovely and lofty thoughts, as the nursling of the Muse, the hope of her coming days, the creator of additional Beauties and Intelligences for the adornment and inhabitation of the material world. The poet commences with calling upon Urania to weep for her favourite; and in a most beautiful stanza, the termination of which is in the depths of the human heart, informs us where he is lying. You are aware that Mr. Keats died at Rome:—

> To that high Capital, where kingly Death
> Keeps his pale court in beauty and decay,
> He came;—and bought, with price of purest breath,
> A grave among the eternal.—Come away!
> Haste, while the vault of blue Italian day
> Is yet his fitting charnel-roof! while still
> He lies, as if in dewy sleep he lay;
> Awake him not! surely he takes his fill
> Of deep and liquid rest, forgetful of all ill.

"The forms of things unseen," which Mr. Keats's imagination had turned into shape,—the "airy nothings" to which it is the high prerogative of the poet to give "a local habitation and a name," are then represented, in a most fanciful manner, as crowding about his lips and body, and lamenting him who called them into being:—

> And others came . . . Desires and Adorations,
> Winged Persuasions and veiled Destinies,
> Splendours, and gloams, and glimmering Incarnations
> Of hopes and fears, and twilight Phantasies;
> And Sorrow, with her family of sighs;
> And Pleasure, blind with tears, led by the gleam
> Of her own dying smile instead of eyes.
>
> All he had loved, and moulded into thoughts,
> From shape, and hue, and odour, and sweet sound,
> Lamented Adonais.

A phrase in the first line of the following passage would make an admirable motto for that part of the *Literary Pocket Book*, in which the usual lists of kings and other passing dominations are superseded by a list of Eminent Men:—

> And he is gathered to *the kings of thought*,
> Who waged contention with their time's decay,
> And of the past are all that cannot pass away.

The spot in which Mr. Keats lies buried is thus finely pointed out. The two similes at the close are among the happiest we recollect, especially the second:—

> Go thou to Rome,—at once the Paradise,
> The grave, the city, and the wilderness;
> And where its wrecks like shattered mountains rise,
> And flowering weeds, and fragrant copses dress
> The bones of Desolation's nakedness,
> Pass, till the Spirit of the spot shall lead
> Thy footsteps to a slope of green access,
> Where, like an infant's smile, over the dead,
> A light of laughing flowers along the grass is spread.
>
> And gray walls moulder round, on which dull Time
> Feeds, like slow fire upon a hoary brand.

In the course of the poem some living writers are introduced, among whom Lord Byron is designated as

> The Pilgrim of Eternity, whose fame
> Over his living head like Heaven is bent
> An early but enduring monument!

The poet of Ireland is called, with equal brevity and felicity,

> The sweetest lyrist of her saddest wrong:

And among "others of less note," is modestly put one, the description of whom is strikingly calculated to excite a mixture of sympathy and admiration. The use of the Pagan mythology is supposed to have been worn out; but in fact, they who say so, or are supposed to have worn it out, never wore it all. See to what a natural and noble purpose a true scholar can turn it:—

> He, as I guess,
> Had gazed on Nature's naked loveliness,
> Actæon-like, and now he fled astray
> With feeble steps o'er the world's wilderness,
> And his own thoughts, along that rugged way,
> Pursued, like raging hounds, their father and their prey.
>
> A pard-like Spirit, beautiful and swift—
> A Love in desolation masked;—a Power
> Girt round with weakness;—it can scarce uplift
> The weight of the superincumbent hour;
> It is a dying lamp, a falling shower,
> A breaking billow;—even while we speak
> Is it not broken? On the withering flower
> The killing sun smiles brightly: on a cheek
> The life can burn in blood, even while the heart may break.
>
> Ah! te meæ si partem animæ rapit
> Maturior vis! — —

But the poet is here, I trust, as little of a prophet, as affection and a beautiful climate, and the extraordinary and most vital energy of his spirit, can make him. The singular termination of this description, and the useful reflections it is calculated to excite, I shall reserve for another subject in my next. But how is it, that even that termination could not tempt the malignant common-place of the Quarterly Reviewers to become blind to the obvious beauty of this poem, and venture upon laying some of its noble stanzas before their readers? How is it that in their late specimens of Mr. Shelley's powers they said nothing of the style and versification of the majestic tragedy of the *Cenci*, which would have been equally intelligible to the lowest, and instructive to the highest, of their readers? How is it that they have not even hinted at the existence of this *Elegy on the death of Mr. Keats*, though immediately after the arrival of copies of it from Italy they thought proper to give a pretended review of a poem which appeared to them the least calculated for their reader's understandings? And finally, how happens it, that Mr. Gifford has never taken any notice of Mr. Keats's *last* publication,—the beautiful volume containing, *Lamia*, the Story from Boccaccio, and that magnificent frag-

ment *Hyperion*? Perhaps the following passage of the Elegy will explain:—

Our Adonais has drunk poison!—Oh,
What deaf and viperous murderer could crown
Life's early cup with such a draught of woe?
The nameless worm would now itself disown:
It felt, yet could escape the magic tone
Whose prelude held all envy, hate, and wrong,
But what was howling in one breast alone
Silent with expectation, of the song,
Whose master's hand is cold, whose silver lyre unstrung.

Live thou, whose infamy is not thy fame!
Live! fear no heavier chastisement from me,
Thou noteless blot on a remembered name!
But be thyself, and know thyself to be!
And ever at thy season be thou free
To spill the venom when thy fangs o'erflow:
Remorse and Self-Contempt shall cling to thee;
Hot Shame shall burn upon thy secret brow,
And like a beaten hound tremble thou shalt—as now.

This, one would think, would not have been "unintelligible" to the dullest *Quarterly* peruser, who had read the review of Mr. Keats's *Endymion*. Nor would the following perhaps have been quite obscure:—

Nor let us weep that our delight is fled
Far from these carrion kites that scream below;
He wakes or sleeps with the enduring dead;
Thou canst not soar where he is sitting now.
Dust to the dust! but the pure spirit shall flow
Back to the burning fountain whence it came,
A portion of the Eternal, which must glow
Through time and change, unquenchably the same,
While thy cold embers choke the sordid hearth of shame.

However, if further explanation had been wanted, the Preface to the Elegy furnishes it in an abundance, which even the meanest admirers of Mr. Gifford could have no excuse for not understanding? Why then did he not quote this? Why could he not venture, once in his life, to try and look a little fair and handsome; and instead of making all sorts of misrepresentations of his opponents, lay before his readers something of what his opponents say of him? He only ventures to allude, in convulsive fits and starts, and then not by name, to the *Feast of the Poets*. He dares not even allude to Mr. Hazlitt's epistolary dissection of him. And now he, or some worthy coadjutor for him, would pretend that he knows nothing of Mr. Shelley's denouncement of him, but criticises his other works out of pure zeal for religion and morality! Oh these modern "Scribes, Pharisees, and Hypocrites!" How exactly do they resemble their prototypes of old!

"It may well be said," observes Mr. Shelley's Preface, "that these wretched men know not what they do. They scatter their insults and their slanders without heed as to whether the poisoned shaft lights on a heart made callous by many blows, or one, like Keats's, composed of more penetrable stuff. One of their associates is, to my knowledge, a most base and unprincipled calumniator. As to "Endymion," was it a poem, whatever might be its defects, to be treated contemptuously by those who had celebrated with various degrees of complacency and panegyric, "Paris," and "Woman," and a "Syrian Tale," and Mrs. Lefanu, and Mr. Barrett, and Mr. Howard Payne, and a long list of the illustrious obscure? Are these the men, who in their venal good-nature, presumed to draw a parallel between the Rev. Mr. Milman and Lord Byron? What gnat did they strain at here, after having swallowed all those camels? Against what woman taken in adultery, dares the foremost of these literary prostitutes to cast his opprobrious stone? Miserable man! you, one of the meanest, have wantonly defaced one of the noblest specimens of the workmanship of God. Nor shall it be your excuse, that murderer as you are, you have spoken daggers but used none."

Let us take the taste of the Gifford out of one's mouth with the remainder of the Preface, which is like a sweet nut after one with a worm in it.

"The circumstances of the closing scene of poor Keats's life were not made known to me until the Elegy was ready for the press. I am given to understand that the wound which his sensitive spirit had received from the criticism of "Endymion," was exasperated by the bitter sense of unrequited benefits; the poor fellow seems to have been hooted from the stage of life, no less by those on whom he had wasted the promise of his genius, than those on whom he had lavished his fortune and his care. He was accompanied to Rome, and attended in his last illness by Mr. Severn, a young artist of the highest promise, who, I have been informed, "almost risked his own life, and sacrificed every prospect to unwearied attendance upon his dying friend." Had I known these circumstances before the completion of my poem, I should have been tempted to add my feeble tribute of applause to the more solid recompense which the virtuous man finds in the recollection of his own motives. Mr. Severn can dispense with a reward from "such stuff as dreams are made of." His conduct is a golden augury of the success of his future career—may the unextinguished Spirit of his illustrious friend animate the creations of his pencil, and plead against oblivion for his name!"

Amen! says one who knew the poet, and who knows the painter.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

SPAIN.

The following is the reply of the King to the Message of the Cortes, presented in the Sitting of the 20th of June:—

"I have received with the greatest satisfaction the message which the Cortes have addressed to me, in which are combined their respect for the constitutional throne, and their desire to contribute to the happiness of the monarchy.—The perspective which the restoration of the constitutional regime in 1820 presented was far from being flattering, but it was not difficult to foresee, by consulting the history of nations, that the distance was immense between the proclamation of liberty and the power of consolidating it; and that time alone, aided by prudence and constancy, could correct the accumulated abuses of ages, arrange under an uniform plan the different branches of the administration, and bring the opinions, the manners, and the interests of the nation, to the level of political institutions. It does not depend upon the Government to precipitate the natural course of things; nor to avoid the evils which are inseparable from grave and difficult reforms. But I do not hesitate to assure the Cortes, that I shall employ, energetically, all the means, faculties, and rights which the fundamental law gives me, to secure its religious observance, and to smooth down the obstacles opposed to its consolidation.—I depend upon the co-operation of the Cortes to attain an end so important—upon the wisdom and perseverance which characterize the Spanish people—upon the enthusiasm and bravery of the army and the militia—upon the influence of public opinion, and the support of the immense majority of the nation—viewing with satisfaction, amid the grief which is excited in me by the events which agitate some parts of Spain, that experience justifies the full motives of my confidence.—I promise myself, with the resources which are decreed by the Cortes, and the means which are within the power of Government, to see in a short time tranquillity established in Spain, and the attempts of the enemies of the Constitution entirely frustrated. In this manner we shall prove the firmness of the constitutional regime, without having recourse to extraordinary means, often little necessary, sometimes dangerous, and always a proof of the impotence of the existing laws.—In vain shall the sacred name of religion be invoked to seduce the foolish—in vain shall an attempt be made to confound the banner of loyalty with the standard of rebellion. The people will be docile to the voice of the Monarch, and, on the contrary supposition, the sword of the law will drive within the path of duty those who would persist in a criminal error.—The Cortes may rest assured, that while I shall labour for the maintenance of tranquillity—the principal foundation of the internal prosperity of states—I shall cause to be respected its dignity and its rights in our external relations, being convinced that it is impossible to attack the independence of a nation without it is impossible to attack the independence of a nation without leading to disastrous effects on the power and honour of the Sovereign.—I am supremely happy that in present circumstances, while the spirit of sedition is active in all senses to mislead the simple inhabitants of our plains, and to provoke dangerous altercations, that the message of the Cortes has produced me a public and solemn occasion to reiterate the expression of my sentiments, that the Spanish Nation may consider the rights of the constitutional throne as a sure guarantee of its liberty and its glory.

"*Aranjuez, June* 18. (Signed) "FERDINAND."

UNITED PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Tuesday, July 2.

Earl GREY, on presenting a petition from Yorkshire against the Corn Bill, announced that it was not his intention to bring forward his motion on the State of the Country:—not, he said, that he was at all satisfied with what had been done in the way of reduction, but because he despaired of doing any good by bringing forward his intended proposition. The Noble Earl hoped that the sufferings of the agricultural classes would not lead to a transfer of the landed property, by which the Constitution would most materially suffer. —To this Lord LIVERPOOL replied, that there was not the slightest ground for any such apprehension.

MARRIAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

On the motion for the third reading of this Bill, Lord STOWELL and the LORD CHANCELLOR made many objections and moved several clauses, which, on being put to the vote, were all negatived. On the final question, that the Bill do now pass, it was carried by 41 to 18—being a majority of 23.—Adjourned.

Friday, July 5.

CORN IMPORTATION BILL.

Earl BATHURST, in a brief speech, moved the commitment of this Bill in the absence of Lord Liverpool, who was indisposed. He merely repeated what his colleagues in the other House had urged in its favour, and re-asserted that the agricultural distresses on the Continent were much greater than in England.

The Bill was opposed by Lords ERSKINE, DACRE, CARNARVON, and DARNLEY, and supported by Lords HARROWBY, REDESDALE, MORLEY, and ELLENBOROUGH.—On a division, the motion was carried by 37 to 19.—Adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, July 7.

PETITION OF MR. MADDOX.

Mr. HOBHOUSE presented a petition from Charles Maddox, at present in Warwick-castle, who complained that he had been persecuted for his endeavours to procure a reform, and convicted through the means of a special jury. The Hon. Member observed, that it was idle to talk of justice whilst the Crown had the power of appointing jurors. The petitioner, he understood, was persecuted for the part which he had acted at a meeting to appoint a legislatorial attorney. It was remarkable that, although Judge Bayley had declared that the proof was not so strong against him as another person named Edmunds, who was convicted of the same offence, yet the petitioner was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment, whilst Edmunds was sentenced to 9 months only. He had inquired the cause of this difference, and he had been informed that it arose from the manner in which the petitioner had conducted his defence. He entered his protest against the power of judges to punish defendants for the defence which they might think it necessary to make. A judge had no right to aggravate the punishment of a defendant on account of the manner in which he conducted his defence, and he thought the House ought to prevent the recurrence of so iniquitous a practice.—The petition concluded with praying, that the House would present an address to the Crown, praying that his Majesty would order the discharge of all persons suffering confinement for their exertions in the cause of reform, and direct that they should receive compensation for their sufferings out of the great sinecures.

Mr. H. TWISS denied that the sentence of any individual had been aggravated by a judge, on account of the defence which he had made.

Mr. HOBHOUSE was surprized that the Hon. Gentleman should have hazarded such a statement. Some cases had recently occurred, in which judges had informed the defendants that their sentences would be aggravated, on account of the *animus* exhibited in conducting their defence.—The petition was ordered to lie upon the table.

The Metropolis Police Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE BUDGET.

Mr. VANSITTART, after some prefatory matter, proceeded with his financial statements. The sum wanted for the Military Service was 7,925,000*l.* for the Naval, 5,480,000*l.* for the Ordnance, 1,200,000*l.* The Miscellaneous Services amounted to 1,700,000*l.* With various other sums, the amount already voted was about 15,500,000*l.* and there remained for services not yet voted, 2,300,000*l.* making a grand total of 17,815,000*l.* If to this was added 3,381,156*l.* employed for the reduction of the National Debt, it would appear that the total sum wanted for the service of the year was 21,196,156*l.* The Ways and Means to meet this were, 3,000,000*l.* Annual Taxes already voted; 1,500,000*l.* reserved upon the Tea Duties; 200,000*l.* upon the Lottery; Old Stores, 151,000*l.* and 110,000*l.* to be repaid by the Commissioners for issuing Exchequer bills for public works. These sums amounted to 4,961,000*l.* To complete the supply for the service of the year, he proposed to contract a Sinking Fund Loan of 7,500,000*l.* Last year 13,000,000*l.* had been voted for the Sinking Fund; but he wished the fund for the present year to extend only to April 1823, as next Session he meant to propose a general revision of this Fund. (*Hear, hear!*) The next item was the sum due from the India Company, which had been settled by arbitration at 557,000*l.* and if to this were added 2,450,000*l.* which would be received for payments on account of the Half-pay and Pensions, they would have all his Ways and Means for the year, except that portion of it connected with the Unfunded Debt. The increase of this debt last year would be nominally about 5,831,670*l.* but in reality not much more than 1,000,000*l.* for part of that sum was expended in renewing old Exchequer bills, and in paying off holders of the 5 per cents. which was equivalent to the extinction of a portion of the National Debt.—He should assume that the produce of the revenue for the year ending 5th of April 1823, would be equal to that ending 5th of April 1822. The Customs would reach 26,102,000*l.* the Post-office, 1,335,000*l.* the Assessed Taxes, 7,245,000*l.* the Miscellaneous, about 380,000*l.* which, with the old Stores and Lottery, would furnish a total for the Receipts of the year of 54,263,000*l.* How far the coming quarter of the revenue would bear out the flattering prospect he had held out, as compared with the same quarter of last year, he could not better explain than by stating, that the actual payments into the Exchequer up to Saturday last, exceeded those of the corresponding quarter of the last year, by 622,000*l.* (*Hear, hear!*) The sum paid in at this period of the last year was 8,209,000*l.* at present it was 8,832,000*l.* He had therefore reason to expect the realization of the flattering prospects he had held out. There would thus be a clear surplus for the country of 3,130,000*l.* add to this the saving of 700,000*l.* in the 5 per cents. and the 1,200,000*l.* in the Half-pay and Pension arrangement, and there would be a surplus of 5,000,000*l* for a Sinking Fund. The next year, he had no doubt, would afford a surplus of 6,142,000*l.* so that they had every reasonable hope that in two years there would be a clear surplus of 10,000,000*l.* (*Hear!*) Mr. Vansittart here congratulated the House on the success of the plan for the reduction of the 5 per cents. and on the reduction of the interest, by the Bank, from 5 to 4 per cent.—advantages, he said, for which the country was indebted to the resolution of Parliament to support public credit; and he mentioned an instance of the good effects of these arrangements, an estate having been lately sold by order of the Court of Chancery, which brought 5,000*l.* more in consequence of the reduction of interest.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer concluded by observing, that the regulation of a particular rate of interest by law, was quite contrary to the principles of political economy, (*hear, hear!*) and that the existing regulation was only to be acquiesced in under present circumstances.—(*Hear!*)—He then moved his 1st resolution for raising 7,500,000*l.* towards the supply of the year.

Mr. MABERLY said, it was quite impossible to understand the *hocus-pocus* of the Sinking Fund, without having specific details. It was now clear that Government thought they had brought their expenditure to the lowest point, and that there was to be an end of savings, as they were to prepare next year for the same large expense in Army, Navy, &c. as in the present. But this was not the way in which the country ought to be treated. (*Hear!*) No adequate reductions had been made. No less than twenty-two pounds was paid out of every hundred, before it passed into the Exchequer. Was such a revenue system to be borne? In their Colonial system, their appointments to public offices, &c. Government showed an utter disregard to economy. There ought to be a complete revision of the financial system of the country.

Mr. ELLICE maintained, that the clear surplus, on the two years' revenue, would not be more than two millions, instead of ten, as promised by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It was not indeed easy to comprehend that Right Hon. Gentleman. (*A laugh.*) He did think, however, that he might congratulate the House, that next year the delusion in which it had long been customary to envelop these matters would be put an end to; and they would be likely to have a fair statement of a real Sinking Fund, efficiently applicable to the reduction of debt. The farmer's property was reduced in value, at least one half; nay, it was almost annihilated. The public creditor's stock, on the contrary, had increased to double its former value; (*hear!*) and this too, be it observed, not in the ordinary course of things, but in consequence of the proceedings of the Legislature. (*Hear, hear!*) Really he must agree with his Hon. Friend (Mr. Maberly) that the House ought to look into this matter with a view to reduce the National Debt by some

Mr. RICARDO declared, that ever since he had had a seat in that House, the Minister had always expressed his hopes of increasing the Sinking Fund. *(Hear, hear!)* Every year he had heard the Minister say that the Sinking Fund would have improved in a much greater degree, had not some particular and most inopportune emergency arisen. *(A laugh, and cries of hear!)* The unfortunate fact was still, however, year after year, that the Sinking Fund was not enlarged, but "*to be*" raised. Mr. R. here entered upon various statements in opposition to the views of the Finance Minister; and gave it as his opinion, that instead of increasing the funded and diminishing the unfunded debt, as had been done, the very reverse measure should have been adopted. *(Hear, hear!)* He thought the present moment peculiarly favourable to an alteration in the usury laws; and was satisfied that the Bank should long before have discounted at 4 per cent.

Mr. HUME said, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had increased the annual charge of permanent annuity by 1,200,000*l.* and no prospect was now held out of any reduction in the expenditure. As for a Sinking Fund, he did not know where his Hon. Friend had found any at all! *(A laugh.)* After various remarks, he concluded by observing, that there was no reason for the House to congratulate itself on the statements of the Right Hon Gent.

Mr. LUSHINGTON thought there was matter of congratulation, that his Right Hon. Friend could anticipate for the ensuing year the same reduced scale of expenditure as existed this year. He praised the measures of Ministers, and said he was satisfied that we should have a surplus revenue of between 4 and 5 millions.

Mr. J. SMITH was somewhat disappointed by the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; but he thought that the agricultural distresses would not be permanent, as he had never known any article at an extremely low price that did not afterwards become extremely dear. The ruin of the small farmers would occasion the growth of less grain, and there would be a consequent rise in price. The remedy was cruel, but effectual.

Mr. BROUGHAM congratulated the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the novelty of the debate, as all the panegyrics on his Budget had proceeded, not from independent Country Members and others unconnected with his department, but from one Gentleman,—the Secretary for the Treasury! *(Hear, hear!)* They seemed to have made at least one retrenchment, that of trumpeter, a situation which the Hon. Secretary had shewn himself so well qualified to fill. *(Hear, and laughter.)* He had "rung out his panegyric" upon those who "sat attentive to their own applause;" but much as he had talked, and loudly as he had belauded his Rt. Hon. Friend, he had exhibited a miserable deficiency of grounds on which to rest his claims on the gratitude of the nation. According to him, no Ministers had ever been so economical, so excellent as the present! A little evidence, however, would have been far better than all this assertion. What had Ministers done? In one item only, the collection of the revenue, there was not a quarter of a million less than in the year 1817. Mr. Brougham here pointed out various instances of waste on the part of Government in the appointment to places, pensions, &c. The Secretary to the Board of Controul, besides an increase of salary from 1700*l.* to 2200*l.* had also a considerable income as a Colonial Agent. The best security for the public creditor was by a perseverance in the call for economy,—and by checking the wilful extravagance of Ministers, which the experience of every day showed to be fatal.

The first resolution was carried; on that respecting lotteries, it was opposed, and a division took place. For the Resolution, 74—against it, 34.—The others were then agreed to.

ALIEN BILL.

The House then proceeded with this Bill—when Mr. HOBHOUSE made various excellent observations in opposition to it, both argumentative and satirical. It was described, he said, as a measure necessary for our domestic security,—to prevent the subversion of our Constitution; yet, during the last two years, only three men and one old woman had been sent out of the country: and if those persons had really put the nation in danger, the House should be informed of the facts.—There had been much talk of the French Revolution, and of a Devil being abroad. He was sure that there was, at present, a Satan in existence, which exceeded in power all the political spirits that were formerly known. He had been well described by Mr. Pope, who said—

"For Satan, now, is wiser than of yore,
And tempts by making rich—not making poor."

It was this Devil of Corruption, against which every man who valued the liberties of his country ought to make a stand. Ministers had appealed to this House. When they did so, they appealed to themselves, for they knew what the House consisted of. The Noble Lord would not have dared to bring down the Bill, if he were not sure of the support of the House. *(Hear, hear.)* The Devil of the French Revolution was the grand authority upon this question. The phantom of that Devil seemed to stalk abroad, and to be constantly in the view of certain persons. It was what Madame de Stael described as preventing every individual from seeing what had occurred since the Revolution, obscured the intellect, and led men to look to the period of the Revolution as one from which the whole history of mankind was to be derived. *(Hear, hear.)* He moved that the bill be committed this day three months.

Mr. F. ROBINSON observed, that there were at present two opposite principles which divided states. There were the principles of absolute power on the one hand (*Cheers,*) and those of unqualified revolution on the other. (*Repeated cheers.*) It was extremely desirable, therefore, to arm Government with this power. The progress of liberty, he was of opinion, no effort we could make would retard. (*Hear, hear.*) If, then, it was impossible to prevent the progress of liberty, no Government could require this power for that purpose. But for the more jealous and timid (if they pleased) purpose of preventing unnecessary wars, this measure was prudent and proper.

Mr. J. WILLIAMS argued at some length against the Bill, as an unnecessary, unjust, dangerous, and dishonourable measure;—and Mr. H. GURNEY also opposed it.

On a division, the numbers were, for the committal of the Bill, 142—against it, 60.—Subsequently several amendments were proposed, but they were all negatived.—Adjourned at two o'clock.

Tuesday, July 2.

Mr. DENMAN presented a petition from J. G. Jones, praying that Ministers would inform the House of the causes which had prevented them from foreseeing and providing against the scarcity at present existing in Ireland. The petitioner alleged, that if the disturbances which had recently prevailed in Ireland had arisen from political causes, a hired band of spies and informers would have been actively employed to obtain information; but whilst disease, famine, and misery stalked through the land, Government took no measure to make themselves acquainted with the causes of, or to provide a remedy for, this unfortunate state of things.—The petition was ordered to lie on the table.

The Scotch Juries Bill was read a third time, and passed.

Sir J. MACINTOSH presented a petition from Joseph Moseley Allen, an Attorney, praying that the Insolvent Court might be thrown open to the practice of all attornies.—Laid on the table.

In consequence of a question from Mr. CURWEN, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated, that he intended the present salt duties to expire in 1824.

Mr. WODEHOUSE obtained leave to bring in a Bill to repeal the Excise Licenses Act, as far as it regarded the trade in Malt.

HOUSE AND WINDOW TAX.

Mr. HOBHOUSE observed, that it had always before been understood, that taxation was a sacrifice to the exigencies of the country: Ministers now however maintained that a national debt was a great public benefit,—and that the payment of taxes, like charity, brought a double blessing, it "blessed him that gives and him that takes." But his Hon. Friend (Mr. Brougham) had in his late eloquent and impressive speech showed that this was a great and fatal delusion, and that the nation could never in any shape benefit by taxation. Mr. Hobhouse went on to notice the contradictions of Ministers in respect to taxation—their earnest resistance at first to all kinds of reduction as impossible and ruinous, and then their afterwards consenting to diminish the public burthens, without giving up their posts as they had repeatedly threatened. This proved, said Mr. Hobhouse, that if the House did its duty, Ministers dared not to resist the call for retrenchment. Alluding to Lord Londonderry, Mr. H. remarked, he must say of him what Hume said of Oliver Cromwell, that notwithstanding he was a man who had raised himself to supreme power by the force of his talents, yet that on particular occasions he was incapable of expressing himself but in such a manner as an ordinary peasant would be ashamed of!—Profuse as Mr. Addington had been of the public wealth, those who succeeded him were still more lavish. In January 1816, the expenditure was 131,629,000*l.* shewing a Government expenditure of 2,529,404*l.* a-week, or 438,763*l.* for every working-day throughout the year! In 1502, the revenue was about 500,000*l.*—a little before 1688, it was 2,000,000*l.*—soon after the revolution it was 3,500,000*l.*—it subsequently in a few years advanced to 17,000,000*l.* but in the 30 years which followed 1793, the expenditure became astonishing: it amounted to 1,406,436,148*l.* The House could have no conception of such an amount of money taken from the people, unless, like Caligula, they wished to see the walls and floor of the house covered with gold. Since 1793, the Ministers had, besides the enormous sums which they had extorted in the shape of taxes, expended 587,493,158*l.* of borrowed money, which they had added to the floating debt. The loss which the nation sustained by such an accumulation of debt was chiefly a loss of capital, inasmuch as so much capital was taken from the productive classes of society: such a debt became in fact a great national calamity; no reasonable man could look at it otherwise.—The Sinking Fund, in the

opinion of the Hon. Member, should be resorted to as a relief to the public. As the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the course of a few years, had sunk it, from 16,000,000*l.* to 3,000,000*l.* by what an Hon. Gent. had excellently well described as "a gradation of delusion," he did expect it would turn out to be no Sinking Fund. The public creditor had no right to demand the maintenance of a Sinking Fund on the score of security to him: but the public had a right to expect relief from taxes to the amount at least of 3,000,000*l.* That amount, according to the Minister's statement, was about the same as the surplus of this year's revenue. The fact, indeed, was, that the country had a right to expect relief from taxes to a much greater amount—namely, to that which should be equivalent to the change in the value of our currency. (*Hear.*) Let the House take the amount of that alteration at the lowest possible standard—at 10 per cent. Now 10 per cent. on the general taxation was the amount of relief in the diminution of taxes which the country might properly ask. This would make between 5 and 6,000,000*l.* So small a demand, therefore, as that which he now preferred, of 3,000,000*l.* only, the Rt. Hon. Gentleman opposite could not, surely, consider unreasonable.—The House and Window Tax, Mr. H. contended, was a very unequal and oppressive one: from a statement which he had made, of its rate, application, and produce, it appeared that the payment was as 25 to 40, on the scale of the four first houses; the duty being from 9*s.* to 14*s.* 4*d* in the pound, or, upon an average, 50 per cent. on the income. The last four houses in this scale paid from 6*s.* 7*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.* duty; on an average 36 per cent. So that the higher the rents were, the lower were the duties: and the lower sort of housekeepers were the most burdened From 1797 to 1822, the increase on the same duties had been between 150 and 200 per cent. making an average per cent. of duty, on the total amount of the rental paid in this country, of 36*l.* (*Hear, hear.*) He knew a case in which a person had a house at Tenbury, of the rental of 35*l.* yearly. The windows were so numerous, that the duty was 60*l.* The owner abandoned the house; but a person was put in to take care of the property. The taxgatherer came round, and demanded sixty pounds for window tax. "Oh," said the owner, "at this rate, I had better pull the house down." He actually did so, and the materials of his former dwelling that the year before had been valued at 2,400*l.* sold for 200*l.* only. (*Hear.*) So unequal was this duty, that on some small houses it amounted to one-seventeenth of the income; and on other and larger ones, it amounted to only one seven-hundredth.—The Hon. Gentleman after stating that the amount of the tax for Great Britain was 2,562,275*l.* reminded the House, that if they much longer failed in the duty they owed to the people of relieving them from oppressive taxes, the period was fast approaching at which the people would relieve themselves. The history of all countries had furnished the same lesson, where taxation had been excessive and unrelieved. The Hon. Gent. adverting to the statement made by the Rt. Hon. Gent. on the preceding night, contended that his predictions of a surplus of revenue were quite illusory; and then concluded by moving certain resolutions in substance as follows:—"1st. That it appears to this House, that the present amount of taxation is so burdensome and oppressive, as to make it the duty of this House to adopt every means by which, without detriment to the State, that taxation may be reduced.—2nd. That the benefits supposed to be derived from the establishment of a Sinking Fund are illusory; and that to impose or continue any additional burdens on the people, for the purposes of its support, is highly inexpedient and unwise.—3rd. That the tax levied on windows in Great Britain is unjust, unequal in its operation, and most oppressive to those especially who are least able to bear it; and that it appears to this House that the said tax should be forthwith and immediately repealed."

Mr. Vansittart said, that the proposition of the Hon. Gentleman went to the annihilation of the Sinking Fund and the destruction of public credit, and he therefore should oppose it. No ill effects had been produced by the tax: and the consequences of the taxation had not been generally to lessen the enjoyments of the people, as was proved by the Excise returns, and the facility with which the revenue was collected. No further considerable reduction of taxation ought now to be looked for, as in the present Session three and a half millions had been repealed, and since the war, 17 millions. The wonder in fact was, that so much relief had been afforded. The House had at present gone far enough. No country in Europe had profited so much as this by a return to peace; and there was little reason in the repeated complaints of the weight of public burthens.

Mr. Marryat contended that the only sound way to support public credit was by reducing the public expenditure; and that it was against the shadow of a Sinking Fund that they contended, not against an efficient one.

Messrs. Wynn and Robinson briefly opposed the motion.

Mr. Hume made various remarks on the Sinking Fund of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had, he said, been lending himself to a complete humbug, which was a disgrace to a British Parliament—(*Hear, hear! and laughter:*)—as perfect a humbug as was ever practised on any set of men; for the Rt. Hon. Gent. admitted that a real Sinking Fund could only be formed from a surplus over the expenditure, which was now to be had next year! As for the boasted relief in taxation, there had been since 1817 an increase of 3,700,000*l.* while only 2 millions had been taken off. And with regard to breach of faith with the public, the Rt. Hon. Gent. had broken faith with the public creditor more than any other Minister,—a fact he could not himself deny. (*Hear!*) Where were the promised reductions in the Civil establishment? In 1792 the collection of the revenue cost only 1,900,000*l.* now it cost 4,500,000*l.* Was this a matter of no consequence? Receivers-General were maintained contrary to faith, and one hundred thousand pounds were lavished on Stamp-distributors, whose duty could be better performed for one-third of the sum. Why was such a system suffered to exist? Because Gentlemen listened to excuses, and were satisfied with statements, instead of reasons, drawn up to delude country Gentlemen. A just taxation was not what the country *could* pay, but what it *ought* to pay. (*Hear!*) Why should establishments be kept up for the support of political connexions? Government ought to carry on the public business at the least possible expense. Mr. Hume here pointed out various reductions which might be made in the army, &c. He was convinced that if the House and Window Tax was given up, its amount would be obtained through other channels, and much comfort would arise from the repeal. If the increased value of the currency was considered, the country was now paying, with the taxes imposed in 1819, 15 millions more than it did in 1817. If a Reform was effected, the debt would be provided for, and England, with her wealth and resources, would stand in an enviable situation.

After some observations by other Members, Mr. Hobhouse shortly replied, observing, that the silence of the Country Gentlemen on a question of general relief, would convince the public that their noise and clamour on other occasions proceeded entirely from selfish considerations.

The House then divided, when the numbers were,—for the motion, 59—against it, 146—majority, 87.

After some observations from Lord Folkstone and others, who protested against the measures of Ministers in regard to Ireland, leave was given to bring in a Bill continuing the Irish Insurrection Act for one year.—Adjourned at one o'clock.

Wednesday, July 3.

Only 29 Members were present at four o'clock, and the House in consequence adjourned.

Thursday, July 4.

Mr. Brougham obtained leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Laws affecting the Retail Trade in Beer.

At the request of Lord Londonderry, Mr. S. Rice postponed his motion respecting the Lord Chief Baron O'Grady—observing, however, that if Government did not take up the matter next Session, he should not desert the task he had undertaken.

On the motion of Mr. Brougham, a Committee was appointed, after some opposition, to inquire into the claims of certain Bankers of Calcutta, upon the India Company, for monies advanced on the security of the Oude territory.

The debate on the Irish Insurrection Bill was postponed till Monday.

In the Committee on the Small Notes Bill, the Chancellor of the Exchequer (at the suggestion of Mr. Ricardo and Mr. Hume) consented to give up the clause authorising the Country Bankers to pay their Notes *either* in Bank of England Notes or in Gold, and to leave them on the footing of other debtors.—Adjourned at Half past Twelve o'Clock.

Friday, July 5.

HIGHGATE CHAPEL BILL.

Some conversation arose on the Highgate Chapel Bill. It was opposed by Mr. Brougham and others, on the ground, that it went to divert the funds bequeathed by Sir Roger Cholmeleigh, for the support of a grammar-school, that would educate 150 boys, which would be a most illegal and scandalous proceeding.—The Attorney-General, too, objected to it, as the proceedings on the subject were now pending in the Court of Chancery, with which the Bill would interfere.—On a division, there appeared for the Bill, 69—Against it, 62.—It was read a second time, after Mr. Brougham had announced his intention of opposing it in its future stages.

RUSSIAN CLAIMS, &c.

To a question put by Sir J. Mackintosh, respecting the recent claims put forth by Russia to an extent of coast of 5,000 miles on the North-east coast of Asia, and North-west of America,—Lord Londonderry replied, that the Russian Ukase had been received by the British Government, and a Note in answer had been for-

warded to the Russian Ambassador, in which it was stated, that as far as regarded the right of sovereignty, and the maritime principle, the British Government could not accede to the terms of the Ukase; but they offered to enter into an amicable explanation with a view to prevent any misunderstanding. (*Hear, hear!*)

To another question put by Sir JAMES, respecting the condemnation of a British vessel, bound to Porto Rico, by the Spanish Authorities, Lord LONDONDERRY said he would make inquiries on the subject, of which he then knew nothing.

IRISH DISTRESSES.

Mr. BERNAL asked whether the relief afforded to the distressed Irish had had the desired effect?—To this Mr. GOULBURN replied, that accounts received that day from the parts of Ireland which had been most disturbed were highly satisfactory, and of a description which made him quite certain that the furtherance of the subscription, along with the aid of Government, would carry the country through its greatest difficulties.

Mr. D. BROWN expressed his surprize at what seemed to him an unexplainable mystery, that people were perishing for food in a country where it was so abundant and cheap, that provisions were daily exported from it.

Mr. V. FITZGERALD was of opinion, that the distress was so great, particularly in the County of Clare, in which famine and fever had spread a desolation truly awful, that the funds raised would *not* be found sufficient.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.—MR. THEODORE HOOK.

The House went into a Committee of Supply, in which Mr. HUME entered into a minute examination of various items under the head of Army Extraordinaries, contending that no vote should be agreed to until all the particulars were fully developed, as many of the charges were extravagant and monstrous. (The Hon. Member named several of them in proof of his assertion.) But they were not to be wondered at, he said, when such men as Mr. Theodore Hook were allowed to get in debt to Government 10 or 12,000*l.* without having given any security —He concluded by moving an amendment, which would go to the reduction of the Extraordinaries.—He was supported by Mr. BENNET, who declared that the Colonies were made use of for the purpose of providing rich places for certain families, and that, to make use of a true House of Commons word, the whole was a job. The Hon. Member then alluded to the scandalous frauds committed by Mr. Theodore Hook, who, he said, had robbed the Country of between 8 and 9000*l.* (*Hear, hear!*)—Messrs. GOULBURN and HUSKISSON spoke generally in defence of the Measures of Government, but did not go into particulars.—After some further observations, Mr. HUME's amendment was negatived by 82 to 55.—Various sums were subsequently voted, and the House ajourned till Monday.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, July 2.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Dicker, Crockernwell, Devonshire, innkeeper. Solicitors, Messrs. Andros and Co. Chancery-lane.

H. R. Abbott, Throgmorton-street, Stock-broker. Solicitors, Messrs. Montriou and Co. King's Arms-yard, Coleman-street.

G. Mingins and J Boothman, Carlisle, hat-manufacturers. Solicitors, Messrs. Young and Co. Charlotte-row, Mansion-house.

Saturday, July 6.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

T. Cole and R. Priest, jun. Norwich, warehousemen.

BANKRUPTS.

T. Pritchard, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, linen-draper Solicitors, Messrs. Hilliard and Hastings, Gray's-inn-square.

T. Leigh, Manchester, plumber and glazier. Solicitor, Mr. C. Lever, Gray's-inn-square.

W. Elwell, Westbromwich, Staffordshire, chymist. Solicitor, Mr. T. Wheeler, Castle-street, Holborn.

J. Pycock, Doncaster, Yorkshire, hosier. Solicitor, Mr. S. Taylor, John-street, Bedford-row.

J. Rothwell, Bolton, Lancaster, whitster. Solicitor, Mr. Niblett, New-court, Crutched-friars.

J. Stone Allen, Towcester, Northamptonshire, linen-draper. Solicitor, Mr. Leigh, Charlotte-row, Mansion-house.

G. Lack, Shoreditch, haberdasher. Solicitor, Mr. Carter, Lord Mayor's Court-office, Royal Exchange.

J. Leigh, Jeffery's-square, St. Mary-Axe, merchant. Solicitors, Messrs. Knight and Fyson, Basinghall-street.

J. W. Carter, Mercer-street, Long-acre, coach-plater. Solicitor, Mr. Richardson, Golden-square.

J. Cooper, Grosvenor-mews, Bond-street, horse-dealer. Solicitors, Messrs. Field and Abrahams, Clifford's-inn.

F. Brothers and J. Leith, King-street, Covent-garden, navy agents. Solicitor, Mr. Whitaker, Bread-court, Long-acre.

G. Davison, Upper Berkeley-street, Portman-square, upholsterer. Solicitors, Messrs. Andros and Alderson, Chancery-lane.

J. Rangeley and E. H. Diggles, Stone, Staffordshire, iron-founders. Solicitors, Messrs. Adlington and Co Bedford-row.

W. Saunders, Beckington, Somersetshire, schoolmaster. Solicitors, Messrs. Bridges and Quilter, Red Lion-square.

The pamphlet recently published on the CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT,—and a most admirable one it is,—shall shortly be duly noticed in this paper.

THE FUNDS.—The market this week has been a declining one; the price at which Consols left off yesterday being one per cent. lower than on Monday last. Much stock, it seems, has been brought to market, by the Jews in particular; which fact is accounted for, by almost every motive than what are probably the real ones. Yesterday the disposition to sell was attributed to the unsatisfactory nature of the answer afforded by Lord Londonderry to the question of Sir James Mackintosh, as to the understanding of Government with Russia, in regard to the famous Ukase, interdicting the navigation of some thousand miles of shore on the North-west Coast of America. It appears that Ministers have formally demurred to this extravagance, and that the difference of opinion is not yet adjusted; but this is a poor reason to give for the avidity of a certain interest to sell. The real one is probably the renewed uncertainty in respect to Turkey and Russia, backed by a fear of the consequences of the Turkish ferocity at Scio. Latest quotation yesterday:—

Three per Cent. Red. 79⅜ 80	New Four per Cents. 98⅛ ¼
Four per Cents. ..... 97⅜ ½	Consols for Account 80⅞ 81
Consols . . . . . 79⅛ ⅜	

The Foreign Market is as heavy as our own.—A new Prussian Loan is spoken of.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, JULY 7.

THE accounts from the Continent continue to be of a more warlike character, and it appears to be certain that the Turks have not even began to evacuate Wallachia and Moldavia. What effect their atrocious doings at Constantinople and at Scio may have in determining the course of the Emperor ALEXANDER, cannot yet be ascertained; but his subjects must be brutalized indeed, if their sympathies are not roused at barbarities, the bare recital of which makes one almost blush for human nature. It appears that all the women at Scio were sent into slavery,—the men, 25,000 in number, and male children above 12 years of age, were massacred,—and the children of the tenderest age, and the most beautiful from among the young women, were reserved for particular purposes. Those who escaped from the savages, were lurking about the mountains without food or clothing, and must soon fall a prey to famine. The whole island presented one dreadful scene of conflagration, death, and desolation:—

> "Can these things be,
> "And overcome us as a summer cloud,
> "Without our special wonder!".

The Paris papers of Wednesday arrived yesterday. It appears that more troops are on their way to reinforce the Sanitary Cordon on the frontiers of Spain. This is a most remarkable fact; for as there is now no *contagious fever* in Spain, the augmentation of the French army must be for some other purpose than that of preventing the contagion entering France.—The BOURBONS had better take care of what they are about.

During the last week, Mr. HOBHOUSE has been active in Parliament, endeavouring to maintain the honour and promote the interests of the nation, by an earnest opposition to the disgraceful Alien Bill, and a well-urged motion for the repeal of the House and Window Tax. Nothing can be more true than his concluding re[mark] upon the conduct of the Country Gentlem[en] neither supported him by speech nor vote. Th[e] of the Window Tax—a tax which comes home to

housekeeper, which not only assists to empty his purse, but too often, by compelling him to shut up his windows, robs him of both wholesome air and comfortable light;—a repeal of this oppressive tax, we say, would not have benefited the Country Gentleman exclusively, so they declined to aid in putting down a general nuisance, and in compelling Ministers to adopt that real retrenchment for which they have been bawling out so vehemently at County and other Meetings. Well: we shall see whether an abundant harvest, and another year of ill-paid rents and unoccupied farms, will not bring them a little to their senses. Nothing but extreme personal suffering will move them, not even Mr. VANSITTART's announcement that all further reduction is quite out of the question! He says, indeed, it is not needed; and as a proof, tells us that the taxes continue to be collected without the aid of the law! Can Ministerial insolence and want of feeling be carried much further? So because people manage to pay the tax-gather rather than submit to the loss of the bed from under them, that is a proof they are not oppressively taxed,—that they are easy, if not prosperous! They *can*, it seems, for they *do*, bear the burthen. Why aye, they *do*—and so do the Chinese bear the discipline of the bamboo, and the Turks submit to the bowstring,—but does that prove the justice or utility of such inflictions? The criterion, as Mr. HUME said, of the fitness of taxation, is not what a nation *can* bear, but what it *ought* to bear. With all Mr. VANSITTART's official callousness, we can hardly believe he would talk in this way, if he really was aware of the difficulties encountered by thousands in their constant endeavours to meet the harassing demands of the tax-gatherer.

Mr. VANSITTART's expectations respecting the Quarter's Revenue do not appear to be borne out. Its actual produce is less by 35,097*l.* than that of the corresponding Quarter in 1821, as will be seen by the following Abstract:—

ABSTRACT of the Net Produce of the Revenue in the Quarters ended 5th July, 1821, and 5th July, 1822.

	1821.	1822.
Customs	£1,898,699	£1,946,108
Excise	6,298,810	6,268,738
Stamps	1,518,493	1,500,716
Post Office	318,000	555,000
Assessed Taxes	2,328,040	2,192,521
Land Taxes	446,366	474,749
Miscellaneous	64,972	99,451
	£12,872,380	£12,837,283
Decrease on Quarter		£35,097

The net produce of the Revenue for the years ended 5th July, 1821, and 5th July, 1822, is—

1821	£49,691,537
1822	51,325,568
Increase in the year	1,634,031

The Income of the Consolidated Fund for the Quarter ending July 5, 1822, is 12,482,906*l.* while the Charge amounts to 13,470,000*l.*—making a Deficiency of nearly one million.

The Irish papers give an account of the arrest of fourteen individuals at Armagh, by an active Orange Colonel of the name of BLACKER, charged with treasonable practices. They were all taken in the same house, on the 25th ult. under a Government warrant, and sent off in irons to Dublin. The *Dublin Journal* says, "These men, it is understood, were acting as Delegates from several counties in this kingdom, and concerned in some conspiracy, which they were endeavouring to organize and bring into operation against the authority of Government and the peace of the country."—That all this *may* be true, no one can doubt, who reflects upon the wretched condition of Ireland, and the frenzy and despair which must fill the bosoms of no small portion of its suffering population. Nevertheless, accounts of this description should be received with extreme caution. While such beings exist as *Reynolds*, and *Oliver*, and that skulking vagabond with an *alias*, *Franklin* otherwise *Fletcher*;—exist! aye, and are cherished, pensioned, and even splendidly rewarded by men in power;—while such reptiles, we say, are fostered, who will contend that treasonable schemes can only be planned by the really disaffected and desperate? On this subject the *Times* contains some observations, which appear to us to deserve peculiar attention. It says—

"On the face of the thing, we can pronounce nothing as to the nature, the objects, or the magnitude of this plot; nor—if it may be spoken without offence—is the reality of the plot placed by any means above reasonable suspicion. Armagh has been for many years the reputed seat of Orange plans and combinations; and, as the centre of their power, it seems not a perfectly well-chosen scene for the conduct of conspiracies likely to provoke their resentment. The Colonel BLACKER who busied himself in the capture of these presumptive traitors, is described to be an inveterate Orangeman, and "high in office," as the phrase goes, among that body of men. He is likewise said to be the only magistrate who had any information with regard to the conspiracy. It is hinted that the 12th of July—the grand festival of Orange turbulence—is close at hand; that it would be no small convenience for the Orange Yeomanry to be replaced on permanent duty; and that a favourable opportunity offers, before the Southern Insurrection is yet thoroughly extinct, to cram the Government with fresh alarms, and with new motives for dependence upon Orange zeal and loyalty. Upon these high matters we presume not to decide. The plot may be "a good plot as ever was laid"—the 14 Ribandmen "true and constant—a good plot, and full of expectation." So were those which *Oliver* invented, encouraged, betrayed, and was enriched by. There is no denying that the most apt materials for an illegal and even rebellious movement are to be found among a starved and despairing people. But whether the men just transmitted in chains to Dublin have been themselves incendiaries, the tools of incendiaries, or the victims of mercenary and meddling hypocrites, there are yet, we repeat, no grounds afforded for stating, with any confidence, to our readers. We should be most unwilling to suspect that, as the Insurrection Bill is now on its passage through Parliament, the Government itself could descend to the baseness of fabricating such a stimulus for the fears of our Legislators, as might be administered by the opportune detection of a conspiracy against the state."

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

His Majesty will neither proceed to Scotland this summer, nor to the Continent. He will resume his aquatic excursions, and orders were received on Saturday, at Portsmouth, to equip his Majesty's yacht, the Royal George, with all possible speed. His Majesty will embark as soon as Parliament is prorogued."—*Courier.*

"It has been stated in the *Courier* twice, and very confidently, that his Majesty will not visit Scotland this year. We cannot venture to contradict this assertion, but we certainly shall very deeply regret to find it correct. No *friend* of the King can have advised him to treat his ancient Kingdom of Scotland with such a marked slight. He has visited Ireland, he has visited Hanover, but Scotland, it seems, is represented to him as beneath his notice. The Scottish nation is a loyal nation, but it does expect that its loyalty shall be justly appreciated. In the present times such feelings ought as much as possible to be conciliated; and we repeat that those who have advised his Majesty not to gratify his Scottish subjects with his personal presence in the "Land o' Cakes," are either totally blind to, or totally indifferent about his true interests—we suspect the latter."—*New Times.*

On Monday night, Mr. Matthews performed his entertainment, called the "Youthful Days," before the King and a distinguished party.

The Duke of BEDFORD has been seriously indisposed at his cottage at Endsleigh in Devonshire; but every admirer of private worth and disinterested patriotism will be pleased to learn, that his Grace is now recovering. A determination of blood to the head was the cause of the illness.

COLD BATH FIELDS PRISON.

The want of means to employ the prisoners in hard labour (a want so long and so justly complained of) has at length been obviated by the completion of a series of revolving wheels in each yard, upon which the prisoners are placed at stated periods, and the motion of which depends upon their constant exertion. On Tuesday week, the plan was brought into complete activity, and the prisoners were set to work. After some little time the men in one of the wards, to the number of 40, declared they would not work any longer. The Governor (Mr. Adkins) remonstrated with the mutineers in vain—one of the ringleaders, acting as spokesman, positively declared their intention not to work again. Mr. Adkins, with becoming firmness (and he is as humane as he is firm) immediately ordered 16 of the most prominent to be double-ironed and locked up in their cells, declaring that they should remain in this state on bread and water, until they thought proper to show contrition. This had the desired effect. The whole of those who remained immediately set to work, and in the course of the day, 11 of the 16 who had been locked up begged to resume their occupation. Their prayer was complied with, and in the course of the next day, the remaining five followed their example. Thus the whole of the prisoners are now kept to hard labour. In the court-yard there is erected some works, upon looking at which the Governor can ascertain the degree of labour applied, and thereby discover whether there is any negligence. At present, the power of the wheels is applied to no profitable purpose, but it is in contemplation to erect a mill outside of the prison, for grinding flour, in which it can effectually be brought into action. The sooner this is done the better; and the sooner the prisoner is allowed a small portion of the profits of his labour, the better also: he will then feel the value of industry, and get habits which may make him an honest and useful member of society. The allowance of food, we are happy to say, has been increased in this prison; and thus improvements are in progress, which we have no doubt will be found highly beneficial both to the public and to the criminal.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

English Opera House.

This Theatre opened on Monday last, for the season, with the *Miller's Maid*, and a new Operetta, entitled *Love among the Roses*, which we saw repeated on Thursday evening, with the laughable addition of *Free and Easy*, all of which were received by a genteel audience, with great apparent satisfaction. Of the first and last of these entertainments, we need not say any thing, as they are well known; and were cast, with little exception, the same as last year; but *Love among the Roses* being a novelty, calls for some description. It is soon given, its novelty being of a very second-hand description. An Alderman's daughter is in love with a young Midshipman, whose uncle, on whom he is dependant, an old hot-headed Post-captain, refuses his consent to their union, although applied to by the Alderman himself. This refusal enrages the latter, who becomes equally indisposed to the match; and in consequence the lovers, by the connivance of the gardener, meet in the garden of the Alderman, who is an especial flower-fancier. Here they scheme to outwit the old people, aided by *Sharpset*, a broken Manager, who is an old friend of the lover, whom he accidentally encounters in the Alderman's garden, while in the act of running away from an arrest. This facetious person undertakes to personate the testy Sea Captain, and in that capacity to see the Alderman, and gain his consent to the match; but while he is preparing to disguise himself for this purpose, the Captain himself arrives; and the Alderman being absent, our schemer turns round, and personates the Alderman. The end of course is, that a discovery is made, and the lovers pardoned and united.

The attraction of this little piece consists in the novelty and elusive pleasantness of the scene of action, and in the ability of the performers. Miss Carew both acts and sings with taste and feeling; and gave all the interest to a heartful heroine of this every day description, which it is capable of receiving—appropriate appearance, and easy and graceful delivery. In the scheming Manager, that most pleasant mannerist, Wrench, was of course at home; and the quaint humour of Wilkinson made the flowery tropes and figures of an old tender-hearted gardener exceedingly amusing. The lover was performed by Mr. J. Bland, the son of Mrs. Bland, who, with no great power of voice, sings very pleasingly. The highest acting in the piece, however, was the Sea Captain of Bartley, which although a complete caricature, was really a very rich and spirited performance. In short, *Love among the Roses* is a pleasant and passable specimen of the minor order of merit, to which it alone aspires; and, consequently, as an introductory novelty, is a lucky beginning.

We have already said, that the house was well and genteelly filled; and, looking at the company, we think that bad management alone, can prevent a favourable campaign, always supposing the object to be commensurate with the scope and ability. This duly attended to, and in musical after-pieces and minor comedy, we are not quite sure whether we shall not be full as much amused in the comfortable circumference of the Lyceum, as in the more misty and illimitable regions of Drury-Lane and Covent-Garden.

Haymarket.

On Thursday night, a new comedy, in three acts, was brought out at this Theatre, called *John Buzzby*, which report, we hope untruly, assigns to Mr. Kenney. We say this, because it is certainly unworthy of the reputed author; although after all, the following plot, the detail of which we borrow from a daily paper, is something in his way, and by no means unpromising for light and summer comedy.

John Buzzby, a respectable London shopkeeper, wishing to enjoy one day free from the troubles of an overbearing wife, and an impertinent cockney son-in-law (*Natty Briggs*) pretends a journey to Deptford on business, and in reality takes a stage-coach trip to Richmond, in search of pleasure. Mrs. *Buzzby* and her booby son, thinking Mr. *Buzzby* safe in Kent, determine also on a joyous expedition, and unluckily to the very same place, viz. Richmond, and take with them *Cecilia*, a ward of the *Buzzby's*, and whose fortune Mrs. B. wishes to secure by marrying her to *Natty Briggs*. *John Buzzby* makes acquaintance in the stage-coach with an interesting female *Julia*, who is lately married to a naval officer (Anderson) and having formerly had a thoughtless, though perfectly innocent literary correspondence with a *Captain Greville*, she goes to Richmond to ask *Major Aubrey* (uncle of the Captain) to procure a restitution of her letters, which *Greville* had improperly shewn, and which she fears may involve her husband, should he hear of it, in a duel. The lady, finding in *Buzzby* every appearance of respectability, relies on that and his age, so far as to ask him to accompany her to the *Major's*, that he might afterwards, if needful, attest the propriety of her visit, and from having, in her anxiety, imprudently forgot, before she left town, the necessity of a respectable companion; these circumstances the Lady is often about to communicate to *Buzzby*, but is always interrupted, and the good-natured and honest tradesman becomes her chaperon on the credit of her appearance, and in consequence gets into a series of dilemmas, which turns his day of pleasure into one of whimsical embarrassment and comic vexation, not a little heightened by the arrival of Mrs. *Buzzby*, who is equally disappointed of her intended jovial day, by finding her husband walking about Richmond with a fine woman, and a military officer claiming the hand of her ward *Cecilia*. The comic incidents arising from these contre-tems, are aided by the introduction of *Jingle*, a facetious Richmond inn-keeper, who suffers none to speak but himself; his daughter *Jenny*, who equally loves talking, but is never suffered to open her mouth, and a gawky country waiter (*Simon*) who is unsuccessfully in love with his young mistress, *Jenny*. The general fracas likely to take place from the numerous mistakes and misapprehensions described, is at length prevented, by the intervention of Major *Aubrey*, who at length succeeds in reconciling all parties, and concluding a day of trouble with an evening of pleasure.

Without supplying the foregoing circumstantial account,

John Buzzby; and all we have to regret is, that the dialogue is sadly deficient in the point and spirit which are necessary to illustrate situations which seduce us into the expectation of far more mirth and piquancy than is supplied. In fact, nothing but the excellent acting of TERRY will make it run its fortnight. No other actor in the piece has any room for display; the talents of Mrs. CHATTERLY, JONES, OXBERRY, and TAYLEUR, being completely thrown away. We wish we could be more favourable; but, regarded as any thing beyond a pleasing novelty, this piece is certainly a failure,—somewhat novel and whimsical as to conception, certainly,—but so poorly worked out, as to be neither flesh nor fowl,—solid comedy or broad farce. In short, *John Buzzby* will soon make his final bow; yet TERRY ought to be seen in it, to shew how decided ability and stage experience may make out a character with nothing either to do or to say. This piece shall not be Mr. KENNY'S, that is a decided point. Other novelties are announced at this Theatre, which now musters a very competent company of comedians, for whose talents it is only necessary to supply adequate selection and novelty to insure the same success which we have already anticipated for the Lyceum. We must confess that we are attached to both these theatres, as affording scope for talent which often escapes notice in the larger establishments; and as supplying the more light and familiar drama with unpretending ease and variety.

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

ONE of the best Landscapes hitherto painted by Mr. ARNOLD, is 149, *Atalanta and Meleager*. Its boldness of pencil is in character with the fierceness of the represented Boar Hunt. The bright lights coming out intensely from the dark and beautifully composed masses of trees, water, and cloud, exhibit a luxuriance of colour on the eager animals, hunters, &c. ably harmonized with the greys and blues. The picture is Titianesque and effective.

There is an agreeable effect of grey colour, and a character of lady-like vivacity and easy floating movement in the mazy dance, in Mr. CLINT'S *Portrait of Miss Foote*.

Mr. JONES ought to undergo a course of anatomical study, elevate his conceptions above common-place, and get beyond the mere surface of figure subjects, before he ventures high on Historical ground, and paints Battles of Waterloo, as in last season's British Institution, and now in No. 313, but a better picture, and in which there is a well-understood harmony of chiaro-scuro and colour. This beauty is also conspicuous in his picture of *Dieppe*.

Mr. GREEN has always an agreeable choice of attitude and pleasing spread of colour. To these is added a well-adapted vivacity, in 195, *a Young Lady in the Costume of Berne*. But if the head is the principal object in a portrait, are not the large white sleeves here too predominant in light? We observed a similar conspicuousness in his elegant portraits of Musical Performers last year, in the sleeve of Miss Stevens. Trifling as these things appear in print, they are important to the due effect of a picture.

Mr. WOODWARD paints Animals well on a small scale.

Besides the *Rat-catchers*—a picture where the Human as well as Animal character is so well painted as to place Mr. E. LANDSEER among our capital Painters of Common Life,—that popular Artist has *a Prowling Lion and a Highland Terrier* in such animated movement, as to shew not the mere outward lineaments of those interesting creatures, but their express spirit. We repeat this eulogium, as it is the prime excellence of the Painter of Animals. Sportsmen, and those who attend to their peculiarities, will in consequence be most gratifyingly attracted by this beauty, and all others of taste by the finishing, which, in other respects, Art and Nature demand and approve in these works.

Mrs. W. CARPENTER has made great advances in Portrait-painting. Half the beauty of a portrait is in the air of the figure. In that of Miss F. COATES, Mrs. FRESHFIELD, &c. it is evident that the Artist's mind is tutored by nature and study to a right appreciation of this and other requisite beauties.

Good flesh tints and a lady-like air belong to 267, *Portrait*

The firm position and extended hand in Mr. GRAHAM'S Portrait of *Mr. Hume*, largely assist that look of steady determination in the countenance, so very honourably, laboriously, and exemplarily shewn by that gentleman, as the Parliamentary Hero of economical finance.

The grandeur of line and cast of dresses in 419 and 420, *Engravings from the Elgin Marbles, parts of figures supposed to be the Fates*, are executed with a correctness and beauty expected from the well-known talents of Mr. BROMLEY.

The flesh has a flatness and feebleness of texture and tint in 247, *Portrait of a Lady reading*, S. W. REYNOLDS, jun. but the general drawing and proportions, the placing of the hands —a difficult part of Portrait-painting—and the air of meditation, would confer honour upon our most practiced Artists.

Mr. J. ALLEN'S *Portrait of Colonel Fletcher* has a well chosen, because unaffected and significant position of the figure, which, with purity of colour, truth of delineation, and an uncommonly clear effect, obtained by no egregious glazing, and no forcing out by violent shade, renders this one of the best Portraits in the Exhibition.

Mr. SHEE'S Portraits are still too glistening and shewy. The effect would be better were the light less strong on the head in 12, *Portrait of a Gentleman*, but which has an air elevatedly graceful.

Independently of some partial feebleness of action, there is a fine character of sudden attack and defence, of courage and terror, and of national costume, in Mr. DIGHTON'S picture of *an Attack on a French Convoy by the Guerillas*.

"A Painter," says Richardson, "must raise his ideas beyond what he sees. With respect to mankind, he must raise the whole species, and give them all imaginable beauty and grace, dignity and perfection. Every character, whether good or bad, must be stronger and more perfect." If this rule is necessary for a Painter, it is more so for a Sculptor, because his means of pleasing are fewer than the Painter's, and especially as he has not the advantage of Colour, and the artifices of Light and Shade. In the exquisite *Bust of his Majesty*, Mr. CHANTREY has observed it to the utmost, for while he has been regardful of the likeness, he has gifted the marble with a high intelligence becoming the Head of a pure, not a corrupt body of Rulers;—of a king, whose mind rises with the moral and not merely outward grandeur of his situation.—In the grand subject of *Satan overcome by St. Michael*, the highest claims are made upon the Sculptor's powers, upon all the professional knowledge that can be acquired by study and practice, and upon that earnest and enthusiastic feeling and lofty capability, called genius; for nothing less is here personated than the opposite extremes of good and evil, of victory and defeat, of beauty and deformity, of Michael, the delegate of Heaven's Majesty, and Satan, the Scripture-denounced originator and perpetuator of all ill. In our humble judgments, the demands on Art have been to a rare degree satisfied; for if the Sculptor, in here presenting much of the result of a long life devoted to his magnificent Art, does not entirely satisfy the wants of lively imaginations, warmed to tenfold intensity by the descriptions of Milton and the Scripture of this mighty act, he does so much, that even after seeing RAFFAELLE'S picture of a similar subject, and having our minds filled with the illustrious energies of the combating Gladiator and the battles of the Centaurs and Lapithæ, &c. we do not look at this group coldly but glowingly. We especially feel the spirit-stirring Artist's power in the alert movement, the bounding spring, he has given to the beautiful limbs of Michael,—one leg being bent backwards, the other stepped forward, as in the act of pursuing and pressing his foe downwards to his "house of woe," with earnestness, as against an Archangel, but without much effort, as in the confidence of greater might. We are struck also with the grand length of line, from the upper end of the spear of Michael, downwards, along the arm which raises it, and along the body and extended thigh and leg. In his beauty and direful prowess, he appears as a bright celestial tempest overwhelming the Monarch of Hell, who, with his monstrous, sinewy, half serpentine, and fallen form,—

"And writhing to and fro convolv'd,
"Gnashes for anguish, and despite, and shame."

We deferentially suggest to our gifted Sculptor, whether the calf of the advanced leg ought not to be a little more swelled.

NEWSPAPER CHAT.

CURIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE.—In April last, Mrs. Motley, broker, North Shields, purchased an old mattress for 2*s.* from a shipowner; in arranging some papers last week, he found a document in the hand-writing of his deceased wife, not intended for his perusal, but that of her son by a former husband, in which it was stated that property to a considerable amount was deposited in the said mattress. His daughter in consequence waited on Mrs. Motley, and offered her a few shillings to return it. Mrs. M. naturally supposed that this seeming generosity was not without a cause, but having sold it to a Mrs. Hill for 3*s.* for a small consideration she regained possession of the prize; but on entering her house sweating under the precious load, the original proprietor and a constable were ready to receive her, and without ceremony cut open the mattress, when a purse, said to contain 100 guineas, two gloves filled with current silver coin, several valuable rings, trinkets, silver spoons, &c. were discovered. Mrs. Hill had considerably reduced the mattress to fit a small bedstead, without finding the hidden treasure.—*Tyne Mercury.*

A case of singular interest has lately fallen under the observation of Dr. Pickells, of the Cork Dispensary; that of a female, aged about 25 years, in which the larvæ of a great number of insects of the beetle and fly kind were discharged alive from the stomach. Several of the larvæ of the beetle kind, though discharged upwards of a fortnight ago, remain still alive, in health and vigour. They consist, besides the head, of 12 joints, and are furnished with 6 feet—some exceed an inch in length. The young woman laboured at intervals, during a long time past, under vomiting of blood, and the most violent convulsions, which have been considerably alleviated by the discharge of the insects. The probable supposition is, that the ova, or eggs, were taken in by the mouth, and deposited and hatched in the stomach.—*Tyne Mercury.*

The harvest this year will be as early as that of 1778, when wheat began to be cut on the 14th of July, and corn of all kinds was housed before the end of August.

The total amount of money paid by the county of Middlesex for the last seven years for expences of witnesses attending to give evidence at the Old Bailey, was 38,590*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*

A Correspondent, who was passing along the Hardgate, on Tuesday last, observed two women and two girls travelling to town. On speaking to them, he was informed that they had come from the West Highlands; they had been turned out of their habitation, and they were going to Inverness. One of the women had a burden on her back—on being asked if she carried a child in her plaid, she said it was her *grandmother!* Struck with the circumstance of a grand-daughter travelling with her grandmother on her back, he turned up part of the plaid, and was astonished to behold the pale countenance of an old emaciated woman, aged 102 years, who had been drenched with rain.—*Aberdeen Chronicle.*

AUTOGRAPHS.—To possess the signatures, or hand-writing, of literary or distinguished characters, has ever been considered a valuable curiosity; but it remained for our speculating age to see such matters put up to sale by public auction. At a sale of books, just concluded, several autographs were amongst the lots. One lot was the signature of Bonaparte; it fetched *eighteen* shillings. Another lot consisted of several autographs, the most celebrated of which was that of the late Princess Charlotte; the lot fetched 5*l.*

It is asserted, that horses, rubbed down with the leaves of the chesnut-tree in the morning, cannot be annoyed by flies during the day.

In Newcastle, Ireland, a man dropped down dead on being told that he had a fine of 100*l.* to pay for having engaged in illicit distillation.

COUNTRY GENTLEMEN.—*Their* grievance is the actual or impending *fall of rents*, and they know or feel no other human change to be a grievance. No taxation so grinding—no mismanagement of the public interest so gross—no corruption so monstrous, that they were not ready to tolerate them all—no falsehood so daring, that they did not affirm it by their votes, so long as high prices and high rents were attainable. Their whole public conduct since the peace may be accounted for on this principle, and it is inconsistent with every other. Hence the enactment of the Corn Law, and next their murmurs at its inefficacy; and last of all, their clamour against the restoration of the old standard coin of the realm.—*Times.*

LOVE OF READING.—At this day, as much company as I have kept, and as much as I love it, I love reading better. I would rather be employed in reading, than in the most agreeable conversation.—*Pope, in Spence's Anecdotes.*

WRITING WELL.—The great secret how to write well, is to know thoroughly what one writes about, and not to be affected.—*Pope.*

CHURCH ESTABLISHMENTS.—Speaking of completing his Ethic work in four books, Pope said, "I could not have said what *I would* have said, without provoking every Church on the face of the earth; and I did not care for living always in boiling water."

EQUITY.—Equity in law is the same that the spirit is in religion, what every one pleases to make it: sometimes they go according to conscience, sometimes according to law, sometimes according to the rule of court.—Equity is a roguish thing. For law we have a measure—know what to trust to; equity is according to the conscience of him that is Chancellor, and as that is larger or narrower, so is equity. It is all one as if they should make the standard for the measure we call a foot, a Chancellor's foot: what an uncertain measure would this be! One Chancellor has a long foot, another a short foot, a third an indifferent foot. It is the same thing in the Chancellor's conscience.—*Selden.*

SPIES.—The celebrated patriot John Hampden, while in power, would never tolerate the employment of domestic spies. He said, "Such instruments must be void of common honesty before they could be of use; and afterward, they could never be fit to be credited. And he philosophically added, that no single preservation could be worth so general a wound and corruption of human society, as the cherishing such persons would carry with it."—How different the opinions and practices of Castlereagh and Co.!

LEGAL GRIEF.—It seems to be rather the fashion for Lord Chancellors to weep in public. Even Thurlow, "albeit not used to the melting mood," could shed a tear or two on a proper occasion. On the proceedings on the late King's madness, he uttered some pious exclamations about never forsaking his King, which he accompanied with a few falling drops.—Burke, who knew of what stuff Courtiers were made, observed upon this display, that "the theatrical tears shed on such occasions were not the tears of patriots for dying laws, but of Lords for their expiring places. The iron tear that flowed down Pluto's cheek, rather resembled the bubbling of the Styx, than the gentle murmuring stream of Aganippe. In fact, they were tears for his Majesty's bread; yet those who shed them would stick by the King's loaf as long as a single cut of it remained: they would fasten to the hard crust and gnaw it, while two crums of it held together: and what was more extraordinary, they would proudly declare at the time, that it was the *honour* of the service and the dignity of the office which they regarded; and that as to the *emolument*, they did not value the money three skips of a louse! This was gratitude—a degree of gratitude which Courtiers never failed to exhibit."

EXTRAORDINARY WOUND.—General Murray was wounded in a singular manner at the capture of Martinique in 1762, when Captain in the 42nd. A musket-ball entered his left side, under the lower rib, passed up through the left lobe of the lungs (as was ascertained after his death), crossed his chest, and mounting up to his right shoulder, lodged under the scapula. His case being considered desperate, the only object of the surgeon was to make his situation as easy as possible for the few hours he had to live: but, to the great surprise of all, he was on his legs in a few weeks; and, before he reached England, was quite recovered, or at least his health and appetite were restored. He was never afterwards, however, able to lie down;—and during the thirty-two years of his subsequent life he slept in an upright posture, supported in his bed by pillows. He died in 1794, a Lieutenant-General, Colonel of the 72nd regiment, and Representative in Parliament for the county of Perth.—*Col. Stewart's Sketches.*

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION.—The Chevalier Ramsay relates, that Fenelon recommended to Prince Charles, the son of our James the Second, never to use compulsion in matters of religion. "No human power," he said, "can force the impenetrable retrenchments of the freedom of the mind. Compulsion never persuades; it only makes hypocrites. When Kings interfere in matters of religion, they don't protect it—they enslave it. Give civil liberty to all, not by approving all religions as indifferent, but by permitting in patience what God permits, and by endeavouring to bring persons to what is right by mildness and persuasion."—How do these enlightened opinions of the good Catholic Bishop put to shame those of many a Protestant!

THIRST IN THE DESART.—The attack of thirst is perceived all of a sudden by an extreme aridity of the skin; the eyes appear to be bloody; the tongue and mouth, both inside and out, are covered with a crust of the thickness of a crown-piece; this crust is of a dark yellow colour, of an insipid taste, and of a consistence like the soft wax from a bee-hive. A faintness or langnor takes away the power to move; a kind of knot in the throat and diaphragm,

attended with great pain, interrupts respiration. Some wandering tears escape from the eyes, and at last the sufferer drops down to the earth, and in a few moments loses all consciousness. These are the symptoms which I remarked in my unfortunate fellow-travellers, and which I experienced myself.—*Travels of Ali Bey.*

Degrees of Abuse.—When a Moor abuses his ass, the first word of vituperation is "Cuckold;" "Son of a Jew" is the second; and the last expression of abusive hatred is, "Son of a Christian."

Fresh Water.—Dig a pit upon the sea-shore somewhat above the high-water mark, and as the tide cometh in, it will fill with water, fresh and potable. This is commonly practised on the coast of Barbary, when other fresh water is wanting.—*Bacon's Sylva Sylvarum.*

St. Petersburgh.—A wild, uncultivated tract was now traversed for about 12 versts, when on a sudden we found ourselves ushered into the fauxbourgs of the town, and again enjoyed a glimpse of Russian grandeur. Here all that we saw was on a great scale indeed: and on passing to the banks of the Neva we came at once in sight of the glory of the fairest city of the world. It was a scene at once gay, lively, and sublime; replete with every fancied ornament that taste and wealth could bestow, it united in the same view all the elegant symmetries of Grecian and Roman art with the gorgeous pride of the East. The Marble Palace, the Imperial Winter Residence, the Admiralty, the Isaac Church, the Academy, the Fortress, and a thousand other sumptuous edifices, rose on either side over the quays of granite, and lined the long perspective till it was almost lost in the distance. Their colours were varied but harmonious, and the white surface of the river lying between them, was spotted with a thousand figures, which flitted in rapid succession before our eyes. To add to the pleasure arising from this spectacle, we were fortunate in the state of the weather: it was a serene and tranquil sunset, the departing ray glancing through the avenue of a lofty colonnade that rose in our front, shed a blaze on the gilt spires and domes around us, and brightened with fresh lustre the gloomy splendour of a winter evening.—*James's Travels.*

Owing to the standing water, "St. James's-park is a perpetual source of mal-aria, producing frequent intermittents, autumnal dysenteries, and various derangements of health, in all the inhabitants who are subject to its influence. The cause being unsuspected, the evil is endured, and no further inquiries made."—*Edinb. Review.*—We did not know before, that the "air of St. James's" was so pernicious to health, whatever might have been concluded of its moral qualities.

Benefits of Conversation.—A reluctance to mix in the conversation of those with whom we are not familiar, is a fault only to be cured by experience and knowledge of the world, which soon teaches every sensible and acute person the important lesson, that amusement, and, what is more important, that information and increase of knowledge, is to be derived from the conversation of every individual whatsoever, with whom he is thrown into a natural train of communication. For ourselves, we can assure the reader,—and perhaps, if we have ever been able to afford him amusement, it is owing in a great degree to this cause,—that we never found ourselves in company with the stupidest of all possible companions in a post-chaise, or with the most arrant cumber-corner in the mail coach, without finding, that in the course of our conversation with him we had some ideas suggested to us, either grave or gay, or some information communicated, in the course of our journey, which we should have regretted not to have learned, and which we should be sorry to have immediately forgotten.—*The Fortunes of Nigel.*

Eternal Punishment.—The ardour of the Highland character remains; it has only taken another and more dangerous direction, and when driven from poetical recitals, superstitious traditions, and chivalrous adventures, has found a vent in religious ravings, and in contests with rival sects. A few years ago, an unfortunate girl, in Breadalbane, became so bewildered in her imagination by the picture drawn of the Punishment of Unbelievers, that she destroyed herself in a fit of desperation,—a rare, and I may almost say, the only instance of this crime in the Highlands.—*Stewart's Sketches.*

A sly Compliment.—When Cumberland presented his poem of *Calvary* to Porson, the Grecian said, "Your poem will certainly be read—when Milton and Shakespear are forgotten."

An old Courtier.—Dr. Arbuthnot was of opinion, that "A poor, old, distressed Courtier is commonly one of the most despicable things in the world."

Political Economists.—Mr. Butler, dining at St. Ann's Hill, observed to Mr. Fox, that he had never read Smith's *Wealth of Nations*—"To tell you the truth," said the Statesman, "nor I neither. There is something in all these subjects which passes my comprehension; something so wide, that I could never embrace them myself or find any one who did."

Population of Greece.—The Peninsula contains about two millions of souls; the Morea and Negropont, one million; the Islands, one million. Making a total of four millions. Of these the Greeks may be computed at not less than three millions, the rest being composed of Turks, Musselmen, Albanians, Jews, and the mixed descendants of Romans, Venetians, Neapolitans, and other Europeans known generally by the name of Franks.—The population of the Seven Ionian Islands, now under British rule, has been estimated at 200,000, the majority of them Greeks. Of these Corfu may contain from 60 to 70,000; Cephalonia, 60,000; Zante, 40,000; Santa Maura, 18,000; Ithaca and Cerigo, each 8,000; and Paxo, 3 or 4,000.

Lady M. W. Montagu.—I always desired (says the Revd. Joseph Spence, in a letter to his mother from Rome) to be acquainted with Lady Mary, and could never bring it about, though we were often together in London. Soon after we came to this place, her Ladyship came here, and in five days I was well acquainted with her. She is one of the most shining characters in the world, but shines like a comet. She is all irregularity, and always wandering; the most wise, the most imprudent; loveliest, most disagreeable; best natured, cruellest woman in the world; "all things by turns, and nothing long." She was married young; and she told me, with that freedom which travelling gives, that she was never in so great a hurry of thought as the month before she was married: she never slept any night that month. You know she was one of the most celebrated beauties of her day, and had a vast number of offers, and the thing that kept her awake was who to fix upon. She was determined as to two points from the first; that is, to be married to somebody, and not to be married to the man her father advised her to have. The last night of the month she determined, and in the morning left the husband of her father's choice buying the wedding-ring, and *scuttled away to be married* with Mr. Wortley.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH,

Monday, July 1.

LIBEL.—ELLIS *v.* EVES.

The Prosecutor, an Attorney, had been assailed by the Defendant with abusive letters, which he took no notice of, till he sent one to his partner, and to the Coffee-house at Storey's-gate. He then indicted the Defendant.—The letter published was as follows:—

"To George Ellis, alias *Non mi ricordo*. He is one of those cruel, treacherous vermin, called pettifoggers; a carrion-looking wretch, whose body is a hideous lump of deformity, and who bears in his mis-shapen form the curse of Cain; his countenance is the index of his mind. When he suffered an executor, of the name of Thomas Bray, to swindle the writer of this out of a legacy, which he (Thomas Bray) positively sold to a Mrs. Elizabeth Eves, and which said Mrs. Elizabeth Eves, at her death, left to the writer of this, he forgot the proverb—'Honesty is the best policy;' but, as Churchill, the apothecary, said of him, so says the writer of this—'If he,' (meaning George Ellis) 'is not a rascal, the Almighty does not write a legible hand.' He lives at No. 4, Abingdon-street, Westminster, and a precious villain he is."—The Defendant addressed a long statement to the Jury. He was repeatedly admonished by the Chief Justice to forbear, as, even if he could prove the truth of every word he uttered, it would not justify the course he had taken; and as, if he had really been provoked by any misconduct of the Prosecutor, he would have the benefit of the excuse when called on to receive judgment. He proceeded, however, to read long cases and opinions, until the Jury interfered, and inquired how these matters could be relevant to the defence? He then acquiesced, and sat down.

The Jury, after a very short deliberation, found him *Guilty*.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

Wednesday, July 3.

DOE, *v.* ETTERSHANK AND ANOTHER.

This was an action of ejectment to try the right of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster Abbey to a certain piece of land at Hampstead, which has been in the uninterrupted possession of the lessor of the plaintiff for a period of fifty years; but which they claim as being part of a waste belonging to the manor of Belsaise; or, should that not be found to be so, then as theirs by presumption, it lying between their freehold lands and the road, and belonging to no other person or persons. When the evidence was closed on both sides.

The Lord Chief Justice charged the Jury, in the course of

which he laid down as his opinion, that although a quiet and uninterrupted possession for sixty years was a good bar against a claim on the part of the Crown, and of twenty years against that of a common individual, no lapse of time was of itself a sufficient bar against the Church. He thought the Dean and Chapter had failed in their proofs.

The Jury, without hesitation, found for the plaintiff—Damages one shilling.

OLD BAILEY.

On Wednesday, *Tobias Burke*, a man of genteel appearance, was found *guilty* of the crime of bigamy, having married Mary Anne Bruce, while his former wife, the daughter of a merchant at Cashel, named Butler, was still living. It appeared that Mr. Bruce had refused his consent to the marriage, but the Prisoner prevailed upon his daughter to elope, and they were married by licence at Islington. Shortly after, the Prisoner's first wife was found living in St. Pancras Poor-house. The elder brother of the Prisoner, *Edmund Burke*, was committed to Newgate, and ordered to be prosecuted for perjury, having sworn that he was present the day the first marriage was said to have taken place, when no such ceremony was performed—whereas the sisters of his first wife both swore, that he not only was present at the marriage, but that he actually gave his brother away!

Thomas Jay, late helper in the King's stables, was *acquitted* on a charge of stealing a gold watch from a person unknown at Drury-lane Theatre, on the night of his Majesty's visit.

On Thursday, *J. H. W Kitchingham* was found *guilty* of bigamy, having married Hannah Hilliard while his former wife, Patience, was living.—During the evidence of his daughter by his first wife, the Prisoner burst into tears, and was obliged to be removed out of Court for some time.—Sentence was not pronounced, as the Recorder said the Court would take time to consider its judgment, on account of his age and infirmities, though a worse man had never been put to the bar charged with the crime of bigamy.

LONDON SESSIONS.

ASSAULT—PARKYNS *v.* ORTON.

This case was tried on Monday. Mr. Parkyns, the late Sheriff of London, was sitting in his office, No. 10, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, on the 18th of May, when Orton, a Clerk to the Bridge-street Association, sent up word that he wanted to see him. Mr. Parkyns went down. Orton instantly said, "How dare you go into my room and take my papers?" Without waiting for a reply, he struck Mr. Parkyns with a stick repeatedly on the face, and two dogs seized him, one by the calf of the leg, the other by the hamstrings. All this time Orton continued to strike Mr. Parkyns with the utmost fierceness, who at length disengaged himself from the dogs, and knocked Orton down. Mr. Parkyns received 11 wounds on the face, nine on his thigh, and two on the calf of his leg. He was confined to his room, and some of the wounds had not yet healed.—During Mr. Parkyns' examination by Mr. Adolphus, the latter said, "Will you act, Sir, like every other witness?"—To which Mr. P. replied, "I will, Sir, when you examine me like a gentleman."—The Recorder here interfered, saying that was not the way to answer a Counsel.—Mr. Adolphus said, he was not to be interrupted by such observations, which were meant to excite laughter: and he added, that an advertisement had been put in the papers on purpose to bring a mob into the Court.—Mr. Alderman Brown remarked, that was an observation which should not have been made.—Some hissing being then heard, Mr. Adolphus said, "There now, you have the truth of my observation."—"That hissing," said the Alderman, "was excited *by* your observation."—To this Mr. Adolphus replied, that the Court was bound by law to defend him, and he must receive the treatment of an Advocate.—The owner of the house in which Mr. Parkyns had his office, deposed, that on his remonstrating with Orton about his conduct, Orton answered, he (Mr. Walker) would get the same sauce as Parkyns, if he did not take care.—In defence, Mr. Adolphus insinuated that the prosecution arose entirely from Mr. Parkyns' love of notoriety, and a wish to glitter in the newspapers; and that Mr. Parkyns's Clerk had taken a copy of a paper belonging to the Constitutional Association, which had been left in the passage leading to his office—a copy of which had subsequently appeared in the newspapers. Such a proceeding, he said, was detestable; and whatever might be the result, he should always feel that Orton was the honoured, not the degraded individual.—The Recorder recapitulated the evidence to the Jury, who instantly found the Defendant *Guilty*; and after some consultation on the bench, the Recorder addressed the Defendant: he had, he said, been found guilty, on the clearest evidence, of having committed an unprovoked assault; and his declaration that he was glad of what he had done, was an aggravation of his offence. The sentence of the Court was, that he should be imprisoned two months in the Giltspur-street Compter.

WESTMINSTER SESSIONS.

On Wednesday, *John Kneller* was found *guilty* of wilful and corrupt perjury, on the prosecution of Wm. Hayward Vincent. The case, as proved, was a very black one. Owing to Kneller's false swearing, the Prosecutor had been committed to prison for three years, by the Insolvent Debtor's Court. His object appears to have chiefly been revenge, as he had written various letters demanding money, and threatening that he would expose the Prosecutor, of which the latter took no notice. He then made an affidavit; in which he falsely swore that Mr. Vincent had defrauded his creditors by transferring property to his brothers.—The trial lasted the whole day.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

About two o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday last, a destructive fire broke out in the little populous town of Whitstable, more calamitous in its consequences than any that it has been our lot to record for many years in this vicinity. The total of buildings destroyed is 46—viz. nine dwelling-houses, four boat-builders' shops, and 33 store-houses, and very many others were partially injured. The estimate of the loss and damage of buildings and furniture, will amount to nearly 7,000*l.* of which sum little more than 1,100*l.* is insured; but the most serious deprivation is that of the poor dredgermen, many of whose boats, with their nets and materials, were burnt in their different store-houses, so that they are absolutely deprived of the means of obtaining a livelihood.—*Kentish Gazette.*

Monday night, about eleven o'clock, a fire broke out at the house of Mr. Wardle, provision-merchant, Old Gravel-lane, Ratcliff-highway. The family, consisting of 14 persons, the majority of whom were children, with the utmost difficulty, escaped destruction by clambering in a state of nudity out at the attic windows on the roof, from which they crawled along on the adjacent houses, until they were at length released from their perilous situation by means of scaling ladders, by which they descended into the street. One of the children was dangerously burnt. The family had hardly left the house when the roof, with a tremendous crash, fell in. Not a single article of the furniture or stock in trade was saved. The devouring element extended its ravages to the house of Mr. Young, watchmaker, where it did considerable damage; but here its career was arrested by a plentiful supply of water.

Wednesday night, Mr. Gradon, of Elliott's-row, Lambeth, on passing the alms-houses, near the Elephant and Castle, was attacked by two fellows dressed like haymakers, who knocked him down, and robbed him of part of a gold watch-chain, which broke.

Tuesday night, or early on Wednesday morning, the house of Nehemiah Rickets, Esq. in the Kent-road, was broken into, and robbed of gold, jewellery, plate, &c. to the value of about 150*l.*—The thieves scaled a wall 30 feet high to gain admission.

On Wednesday afternoon, a female called with a note directed to Mr Harding, silversmith, Oxford-street, requesting some silver tea-pots might be sent to No. 7, Chapel-place, Vere-street, for the approbation of a lady, who could not leave the house. A young man was despatched with some, and after being admitted to the house by the same female, was shown into the drawing-room, where three tea-pots were selected, and she went up stairs for the purpose of showing them to the lady. After waiting a quarter of an hour, he rang the bell, and found she had made her escape, taking with her the property.

MARRIAGES.

On Thursday evening, at Montague-house, Privy-gardens, Lord Stopford, son of the Earl of Courtown, to Lady Ann Montague Scott, daughter of the late Duke of Buccleugh.

On Monday last, at St. Leonard, Shoreditch, Mr. Richard Penrose, of Redruth, Cornwall, to Miss Sims, of Hackney-road.

On the 29th ult. Francis Newman Rogers, Esq. to Julia Eleanor, third daughter of the late William Walter Yea, Esq. of Pyrland-hall, Somersetshire.

On the 18th ult. at Syston, Leicester, Montague Newland, Esq. of New-inn, to Louisa Sophia, third daughter of Mathew Dalley, Esq. of Syston.

On Monday, at St. Andrew's, Holborn, Sir John St. Aubyn, Bart. to Mrs. Juliana Vinicombe.

DEATHS.

On the 30th ult. in Baker-street, of a short and violent attack of croup, Julia, eldest daughter of Richard Rush, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States.

On the 26th ult. at North-end, Croydon, John Walter Langton, Esq. aged 76, many years resident at Newington-butts.

On Tuesday, Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. John Hewlett, B. D. Rector of Hilgay, and Morning Preacher at the Foundling.

On Tuesday, John Reid, M. D. of Grenville-street, Brunswick-square.

On Wednesday, at Crayford, Thomas Smith, Esq. late of Paul-house, Edmonton, in his 82nd year.

THEATRE ROYAL, ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE, STRAND.

TO-MORROW, JULY 8th, will be presented (7th time) an entirely new Operetta, called LOVE AMONG THE ROSES; or, the Master-Key. After which (1st time this season) the Comic Operetta, called IS HE JEALOUS? To which will be added (1st time this season) the Comic Operetta, called FIRE AND WATER. To conclude with (55th time) a Romantic Melodrama, called THE VAMPIRE.

MISS TAYLOR'S NIGHT.—COBURG THEATRE.

Under the Patronage of the Dowager Lady GRESLEY.

MISS TAYLOR most respectfully announces to her Friends and the Public, that her BENEFIT will take place on TUESDAY next, the 9th day of JULY, when will be presented an entirely new interesting Melodrama, in three acts, founded on the adventurous exploits of GILDEROY!!! the part of Jessy by Miss TAYLOR. In the course of the evening, the Comic Song by Mr. SLOMAN, in front of the Glass Curtain. To conclude with the Pantomime, called HARLEQUIN and the THREE WISHES; in which Mr. GRIMALDI will perform the part of Clown, and sing his much-admired Comic Song, called Tippitywitchet.

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